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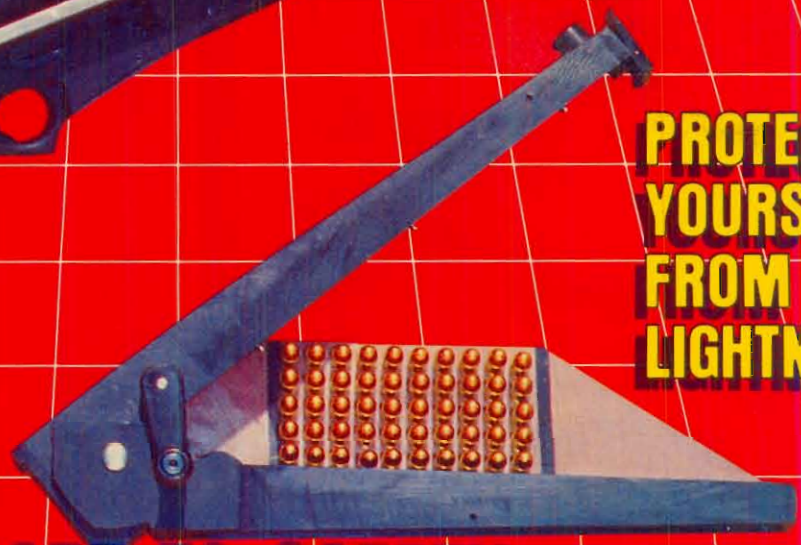
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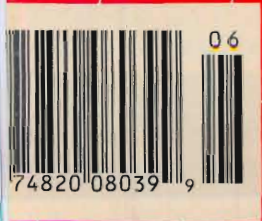
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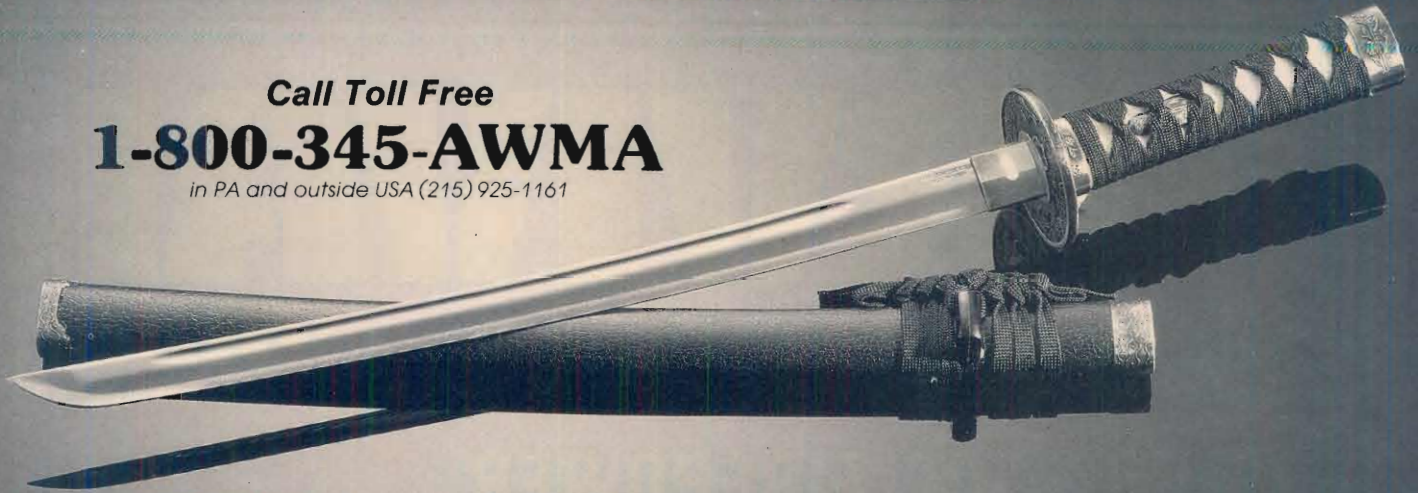
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SUBSCRIPTIONS. U.S. and U.S. possessions \$21.95 for 12 issues; \$38.95 for 24 issues. All other countries, \$30.95 for 12 issues; \$56.95 for 24 issues. Payment in U.S. currency only. *American Survival Guide* Subscription Department, McMullen Publishing, P.O. Box 15690, Santa Ana, CA 92705-0690. Allow 8-10 weeks for delivery of first issue.

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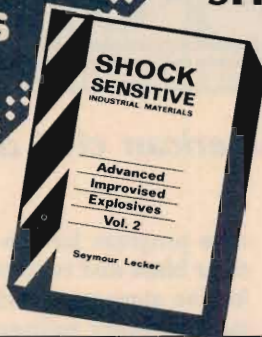
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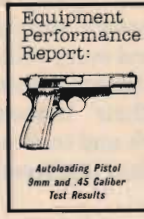
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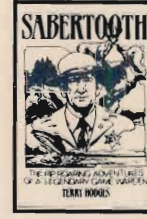
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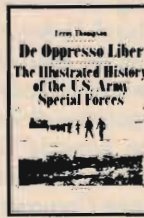
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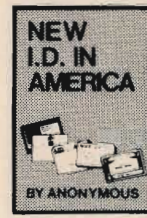
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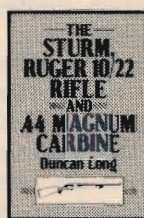
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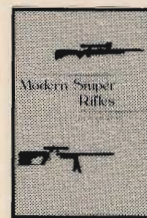
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TO THE POINT

Petition in support of American civil defense...

WE the undersigned do hereby petition the United States Government to IMMEDIATELY commence a program for the building of nuclear blast and radiation shelters and for the storage of at least one year's supply of food for every civilian and every military person in the United States within walking distance of their homes, schools, and places of work and to complete this program within eighteen months."

This "Petition in support of American Civil Defense" is being circulated by the American Homeland Defense Alliance (AHDA) headed by Dr. Arthur Robinson. Robinson's newsletter *Fighting Chance* launched the petition drive with a recent issue. The hope is to gather 1 million or more signatures on the petition to influence Congress to act on a viable civil defense plan for the American population similar to what other countries are doing.

The petition drive is backed by The American Civil Defense Association which publishes the *Journal of Civil Defense*. "This may be the opportunity we've been seeking for the past 25 years or so to put civil defense on the front burner where it belongs," says TACDA President Charles L. Bradley. "The fact that 80 to 90 percent of our citizens favor a strong civil defense as shown by opinion polls indicates that we should be able to get well over a million signatures, maybe many more. This is what will impress Congress and galvanize it into action."

In addition to reprinting the petition in its April issue, the *Journal of Civil Defense* provided a petition insert. Each petition has space for 10 signatures. Additional copies may be obtained from the *Journal*, P.O. Box 1057, Starke, FL 32091; (904) 964-5397; or from American Homeland Defense Alliance, P.O. Box 1159, Cave Junction, OR 97523; (503) 592-4142.

In the U.S. Senate earlier this year, Senator Pete Wilson of California and Senator Steve Symms of Idaho introduced Senate Resolution 314, which directs the Department of Defense and Department of Agriculture to "provide immediately to this Congress a report

on a program for the building of nuclear blast and radiation shelters and for the storage of food for every civilian and every military person in the United States within walking distance of their houses and places of work." Other senators had joined in cosponsoring the resolution but at this writing the Senate had not acted on it. In the House, an almost identical resolution, House Resolution 311, was introduced by Representative Michael Bilirakis of Florida.

The petition states that, "in this age of nuclear energy, the people of the United States are endangered by nuclear war, nuclear terrorist attacks and nuclear accidents...in the event of nuclear war the people are in additional danger of starvation during the time before food production and distribution can be restored...blast and radiation shelters and food storage methods have been invented which can protect people from these nuclear dangers without evacuation...these shelters when properly constructed also confer protection against chemical and biological hazards of war or accident...blast and radiation shelters and food reserves have been provided to protect the peoples of Switzerland, the U.S.S.R. and other countries...at present no defensive blast and radiation shelters or distributed food reserves have been provided for most of the people of the United States...the Department of Defense and the Department of Agriculture have the knowledge and resources to provide this essential protection..."

We at ASG wholeheartedly endorse this petition drive and the resolutions introduced in Congress to set in motion the machinery to provide the people of this country with a viable civil defense program. At present only high government officials are protected by such a program. That nothing is at present provided for the general U.S. population while other countries, including potential aggressors, have massive civil defense programs in place for their populations is deplorable. We must act before it is too late — *Jim Benson*

Camouflage Protective Firearm Coatings

Protect your guns from abrasion, rust, mechanical wear. . .

By Donald B. Clough



Here are examples of the colors and color patterns available from Z-Coat.

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(Continued on page 71)

Tepee:

Tomahawk Lodge

Home is where you take it. . .

Staff Report

Both lodge and fully collapsible stove together weigh only 98 lbs.



Pyromid's Tomahawk Lodge can be set up in fifteen minutes, and comfortably sleeps eight to ten people.



Inside view of the lodge and partially assembled stove. A water jacket surrounds the bottom portion of the stove pipe to keep three gallons of water hot until it's needed.

TEPEES were the Indians' portable homes. Their shape, the result of thousands of years of field testing, was designed to withstand the extremes of weather encountered in the wilderness and provide comfort for the inhabitants.

For people on the move, the tepee is tailor made. It is relatively light and can be set up or taken down in a short period of time. The materials used in its construction are inexpensive and easily replaceable.

The combination of a high ceiling and openings at the base and top create a convection current that draws in fresh air for ventilation and allows heat to rise and escape. When the air in the bottom part of the tepee is heated in winter with a fire, the escaping warm air can be regulated to keep the interior comfortable. Pyramid Outdoor Cooking Systems has introduced an improved version of the age-old Indian tepee called the Tomahawk Lodge. "The old-style tepees, as impressive as they are, were still cumbersome to pack around, and the smoke inside left quite a mess," says Tomahawk Lodge maker Dan Rohrer. "With the Tomahawk Lodge the single supporting pole also serves as the chimney for the stove (which comes with the Tomahawk Lodge), keeping all the soot off the tent walls. The entire weight of both the tent and stove combined is only 98 pounds. Two of them can be packed on a horse."

The Tomahawk Lodge is a shelter system designed for Red Cross workers, the

(Continued on page 68)

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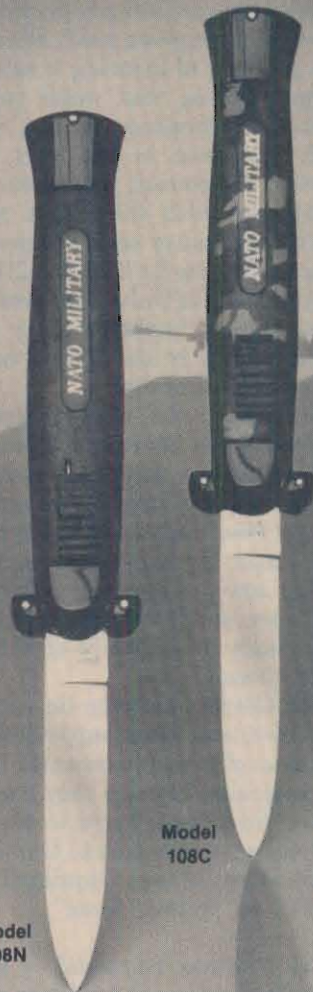
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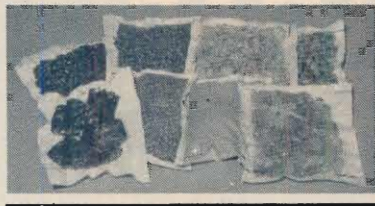
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UNDERGROUND ECONOMY



GUERRILLA CAPITALISM: How To Practice Free Enterprise In An Un-free Economy, by Adam Cash. As the government eats up our regular income with taxes and inflation, many Americans are joining the underground economy and evading taxes! This is a step-by-step how-to-do-it book on the underground economy.

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SURVIVAL LINE

Giardia contamination of U.S. water supplies, New Zealand nuclear war survival study, probability of a major East Coast quake...

IF your survival plans call for living off the land, or if you have a survival retreat already prepared, you have no doubt given much attention to the problem of insuring a safe water supply. Unless that water supply is from an underground source, you may find that even in the most remote parts of the county, your water is contaminated with Giardia, a parasite which can cause severe illness.

According to Dr. Charles Hibber, a Colorado State University professor of parasitology, "probably every surface water source in the U.S. is contaminated with Giardia."

Giardiasis, the illness caused by ingesting the Giardia organism, can cause diarrhea, vomiting, cramps, and in severe cases dehydration and acute weight loss. The disease and symptoms can linger for months or years, subsiding now and again for a few weeks, and then suddenly flaring up again. Giardiasis is normally treated with drug therapy.

The Giardia parasite (in cyst form) is passed into water supplies through the feces of man and animals. Beavers in particular, because they live in the water, have been found to be among the main contributors to Giardia contamination. In fact, Giardiasis is also known as "beaver fever."

Kiwi Nuclear Survival — In 1985 New Zealand banned nuclear powered and nuclear armed American naval vessels from her ports. That ban, urged by the anti-nuclear movement in New Zealand, resulted in the suspension of the ANZUS treaty by which the U.S. provided military support to New Zealand and Australia.

Strangely enough, because of its geographical location, New Zealand has become home for many survivalist communities. Most in those communities say they chose New Zealand after a careful search for areas which would be least affected by a nuclear war or natural catastrophe.

The government of New Zealand has recently released a report entitled "After Nuclear War," which examines the probable effects on New Zealand

of an East-West nuclear clash. The report draws many of the same conclusions that the survivalist community in New Zealand had already reached.

The report also spawned a number of proposals on how New Zealand might prepare to cope with the effects of a nuclear war. Among the projects inspired by the report, the establishment of seed banks in order to insure an agricultural reserve upon which the country could depend, and the stockpiling of pharmaceuticals which would not be available for import in the aftermath of such an event.

Earthquakes In The East — A recently concluded symposium of earthquake experts, seismologists, and structural engineers has led to warnings from those experts about the possibilities and consequences of a major East Coast earthquake. According to Leonardo Seeber of the Columbia University Lamont-Doherty Geological Observatory, "the potential damage (of an East Coast quake) is much higher than in California. We're looking at something... that if it does occur could be a tremendous disaster."

While a major eastern quake would not necessarily be any stronger than one in the west, experts cite a number of factors which would magnify its effects. Among them, due to underlying geologic formations quakes in the east generally affect a larger land area than those in the west, population densities in the east are greater, and buildings in the east do not have the earthquake resistance of those in the west.

Last year the American Association of Engineering Societies released a report that said there was an almost 100 percent probability of a major East Coast earthquake occurring in the next 25 years.

According to the U.S. Geological Survey, 1987 was the worst year for earthquakes in more than a decade. Some 76 significant quakes worldwide killed more than 1,000 people and injured thousands of others. ●

NEW PRODUCTS

Black Magic



The Black Magic Bowie-style survival knife by Chuck Blum is a handful of cutlery! A full-tang knife with finger grooves in the handle for a sure grip, the Black Magic is 15½ inches long overall and the blade is 10½ inches and made from 416 stainless steel hardened to Rockwell 58-60. The guard is arc welded to the tang and the tang

is drilled for a lanyard. The steel has a black teflon-S coating and handle slabs are black micarta. For more information contact Chuck Blum, Dept. ASG, 743 S. Brea Blvd., #10, Brea, CA 92621; (714) 529-0484 or 870-0715. Send \$2 for a catalog of other fine custom knives by Chuck Blum.

Perma Focus 2000



It's happened to everyone, at one time or another. You're glassing an animal, and it moves downrange. While you fool around with the focus knob on your binoculars, the trophy of a lifetime disappears. "With Jason's new PERMA FOCUS 2000 binoculars," notes Don Addy, president of Jason Empire, "outdoor enthusiasts never again have to face that problem. No focusing is required — ever!" Winner of the American Firearm Industry Design Award of Merit, Jason's Perma Focus 2000 utilizes highly advanced optics to assure that everything from 40 feet to infinity is in perfect focus — everytime, all the time. "This can be invaluable whenever the point of interest shifts distance," Addy points out, "such as with moving game, birds bobbing in and out, or even at the ball game when you switch your view from home plate to the outfield." Rubber armoring on these 7x35 binoculars assures protection against knocks, jars and falls out in the field, while graphite composition construction provides exceptional strength and durability in a light weight package. "Hunters and bird watchers, especially, will appreciate Perma Focus's relative brightness of 37.5, and 341-foot field of view," Addy says. Patent pending PERMA FOCUS 2000 binoculars are available at fine sporting goods stores. Or contact Jason Empire, Dept. ASG, PO Box 14930, Overland Park, KS 66214; (913) 888-0220.

Gas Mask



The Draeger Gas Mask M-65 filters all of the common riot control agents along with CBN contaminants. This mask is used by NATO troops in Europe, and many feel it has superior protection and use as compared to the M-17 mask. The Draeger Mask is easy donning, full vision with quick change filters. The filter change can be accomplished without removal of the mask. The mask has a modulator for voice communications and air vents that direct air against the eye piece for clear fog-free vision. These masks are in like new condition as packaging has been opened, but they are unused and filters are sealed. Each mask comes in a hard plastic storage case. Federal Ordnance is pricing the masks at \$69.90 for 1-3 units each and \$63.90 for 3-9 units each, department price. For larger quantities, please contact Federal Ordnance, Dept. ASG, 1443 Potrero Ave., South El Monte, CA 91733; (818) 350-4161.

SpaceCase



Matrix Enterprises, Inc. introduces SpaceCase, standard and custom Hard Shell Cases for protective and transportation of virtually any sized object! SpaceCase, developed by Michael Anderson, is a means of making a sturdy case in any size from 90 cubic inches to 10 cubic feet. These rugged kits are made from polycarbonate components, and ABS Plastic sheet. The SpaceCase comes with easy, step-by-step instructions and bonding agent for quick, no tools assembly. There are literally hundreds of commercial and industrial uses for SpaceCase. Originally designed to transport our own models and prototypes, now SpaceCase is available to the general public, with our complete line of cases for both the Hobby and Photographic Industries. Matrix Enterprises also has the capabilities to provide custom sized VACUUM FORMED cases for low to medium quantity use. SpaceCase has the right protective case for you. Remember, we're the people who have been making and shipping models and prototypes for commercial and industrial use for more than 9 years! Contact Matrix Enterprises, Inc., Dept. ASG, 7015 Carroll Rd., San Diego, CA 92121, (619) 450-9509.

LFT Catalog



Dark Invaders, Talking Robots, Power Makers. A new movie? No, these are some of the products to be found in the premiere Life Force Technologies Catalog. The theme of the catalog is "control," and is targeted to appeal to those cool, competent individuals who like to take charge of their lives. You know, those people who are never comfortable unless they are in the driver's seat. Life Force Technologies is the brain child of Doug Casey and Bob Duggan, the creative and attractive people behind Executive Security International (ESI), the largest and best executive protection organization in the country. It is, therefore, no surprise that a major part of the catalog is dedicated to the most sophisticated, high tech, non-restricted protection and counter-

surveillance products to be found in the world. The LFT Catalog includes other categories of products which enhance the control factor: health, comfort and environment, among others. To say that the products are unique is an understatement. The pages fairly sizzle with excitement, due in large part to the presentational style of the catalog itself. For openers try a SCAT II Hovercraft that carries one or two people over water, snow, sand or ice. For more information, or to request a catalog, contact Life Force Technologies, Ltd., Dept. ASG, 500 W. Main Street, Aspen, CO, 81611; (303) 920-2323. Also LFT now has a consumer toll-free number for catalog requests, at (800) 922-3545.

Adjustable Cheekrest

The Software Works is introducing a new adjustable cheekrest designed to fit the HK91-93 or Colt AR-15/M16 rifles. It permits quick and accurate sighting with a positive cheek-weld for the shooter. Made of ABS plastic, the cheekrest is virtually indestructible and carries a 30-day money back guarantee. Priced at \$19.95 (about one-third the cost of Colt's cheekrest and one-seventh the cost of HK's model), it is destined to be a popular accessory for sportsman and competitive shooter



alike. Contact The Software Works, Dept. ASG, 8405 NW Ogden, Portland, OR 97231; (503) 286-4292; evenings, 286-3925. ●

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The Katadyn Pocket Filter is a Swiss-made device that **clarifies** raw water and **instantly removes all harmful cocci, bacteria, protozoa, fungi, cysts** including *Giardia* and **parasites** by microfiltration through a 0.2 micron microporous ceramic filter element. **No chemicals** are added or removed. A silver lining fixed to the inside of the ceramic element prevents the growth of algae or bacteria into the surface, keeping it free from contamination. Will operate many years with daily use. Full flow is quickly restored by wiping or brushing off the filter element and can be repeated hundreds of times before replacement is necessary.

The Pocket Filter is standard issue with the International Red Cross and NATO. Essential equipment for backpackers, globetrotters and survival kits. Built-in pump produces 1 quart/minute of safe drinking water. Includes carrying case, cleaning brush and instructions. 10" long, 2" diameter, 23 ounces. Full money-back guarantee.



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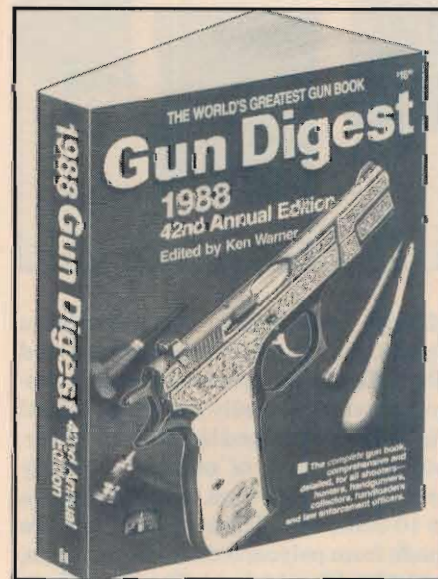
BOOKS/VIDEOS



Fighting Karate, by Hideyuki Ashihara; *Ashihara Karate U.S. Headquarters, Dept. ASG, 4730 E. Colfax Ave., Denver, CO 80220; (303) 320-7632; 162 pages; softcover; \$9.95*
Ashihara-Karate: A New Strategy for Survival, produced by Nissho Iwai Corp. & Kodansha Limited; *VHS or Beta; 40 minutes; available for \$39.50 at same address as above.*

"Fighting Karate" is how you could describe Ashihara-style karate. Hideyuki Ashihara has developed karate techniques that can be used for street defense, and has devised these movements to first defend against attack and then render offensive blows to ward off the attacker. "We aim to reduce the possibility of being hurt ourselves and guarantee a win, we seek to attain the ultimate rational performance from the body, and work at improving our speed, techniques, and power." Conventional karate teaches defensive blocking that results in a head-on collision of force. Ashihara would rather deflect the opponent's force and come in at his side. The book is filled with action sequences and illustrations that make it easy to

visualize each move. Barefoot illustrations under each photo show basic stance, rotation, and weight distribution. The video is professionally produced and uses slow-motion sequences to show the lightning fast moves. Both the book and the video complement each other, and would make learning the techniques quite simple. The Ashihara method is based on sound principles of science, logic, and common sense. It clearly is a new strategy for survival. By pulling together both defensive and offensive moves into a flowing, continuous attack, this style of fighting proves to be the most vital and practical method in real-fight situations.



Gun Digest, 1988, 42nd Annual Edition, edited by Ken Warner; *DBI Books, Inc., Dept. ASG, 4092 Commercial Ave., Northbrook, IL 60062; (312) 272-6310; 480 pages, softcover; \$16.95;*

A comprehensive reference work on guns currently available. Listings for most makes of rifles, shotguns, handguns, black powder guns, and air guns are included with detailed descriptions, specifications, and prices. This is the 42nd edition of a publication which has long been a standard reference source for gun enthusiasts. Articles feature the latest innovations in gun technology, hunting, and shooting. Reviews of rifles and handguns are well illustrated with photography, enabling the reader to see important differences and fea-

(Continued on page 53)

Trekking:

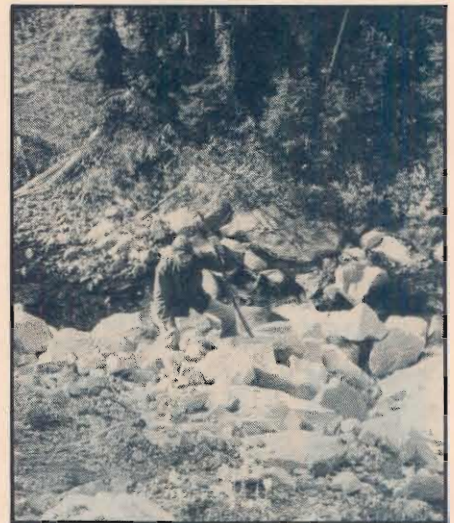
Alpine Hazards

Long distance alpine journeys require a lot of planning. . .

By James Watkins



Orienteering is the proper way to travel in mountain country.



Trekking stream canyons is exhausting work.

YOUR weary feet, sore from trekking all day over rugged alpine terrain, stumble clumsily. The route ahead meanders downward following boulder fields and stunted fir trees. Shoulders and hips gradually numb, the cumbersome mountaineering pack constricts circulation and fatigue dulls the senses. You suddenly trip on loose shale, falling face first towards possible injury.

This scenario commonly occurs among mountain backpackers. I've taken nasty falls, learning the value of a sturdy walking staff. Experienced wilderness trekkers travel when well rested and search for camp before acute fatigue sets in.

Long distance alpine journeys require a lot of planning. Personal logistics, weather, terrain and ground cover dominate the subject. Only the physically fit should undertake wilderness travel. It takes considerable amounts of time to properly acclimate under

high elevation conditions.

The wilderness lifeline is a well stocked pack. Warm clothing, shelter, food, first aid kit, fire tools, knife, cook gear, and compass are essential survival elements. Light fish tackle, .22 survival gun, 50-foot nylon cord, maps, collapsible bowsaw and the means to purify water are equally important.

Take enough food with you! This article discusses long distance mountain journeys, not the short day hike. The body requires thousands of high energy calories daily in order to maintain physical stamina at high elevations. Living off the land is an idea best left at home except during emergencies or recreation. Today's outdoorsman would find difficulties maintaining enough energy from the sketchy food sources existing in most remaining wilderness alpine areas.

Wear boots that provide ample support and traction. I recommend high

quality foot wear with Vibram soles. Dry wool socks are essential for healthy unblistered feet; pack several clean pairs.

Large sectors of primitive country demand off trail cross country travel. U.S.G.S. Topographic Series Maps aid navigation through unknown or potentially dangerous terrain. Accurate compass work will prevent disorientation and unpleasant encounters with prohibitive terrain. Remember: you carry only so much food; exhaustion is a killer.

Inexperienced eyes find those awesome crags above a seemingly unsalutable barrier. Does a route exist around the rock slides and icy snowfields? Navigable traverses reveal themselves with careful study of topo map contours.

Mountain ranges test climbers with both timber line and high alpine obstacles. Each one poses particular psychological and physical tribulations. Cross



Take time to acclimatize as you gain elevation.

country mountaineering is definitely a rough experience.

We first discuss travel conditions prevailing within the lower brush and woodland elevations. The important thing to remember is that no two terrain or flora situations are identical. Fighting undergrowth demands considerable patience.

North slopes and watersheds usually generate lush vegetation, particularly dense forest cover. Sun exposed southern hillsides encourage fewer trees and thick brush jungles. Higher elevations frequently retard timber stand, opening sub-alpine meadows or rock outcrops.

What does this have to do with mountain travel? Take the path of least resistance. You carry a heavy pack that easily ensnares in brush. Woodland obstacles require a lot of physical exertion to cross. Study the map and head for the high country. Ridge tops provide a clear view of

travel conditions ahead.

Stay within mature timber stands in lower valleys where the reduced sunlight retards heavy undergrowth. Jumbles of deadfall logs compose the primary hindrance to foot travel. Utilize your walking staff to prevent falls and patiently work a route through the maze. Your compass can be a faithful guide.

Beware: Entry into former forest fire, new growth areas can be a nightmare! Burn remains leave deadfall log mazes or regenerating tree thickets that seriously ensnare backpackers. Brush jungles cluster sunlit openings; at all cost avoid the agonizing toil necessary to cross these sites. I have one hint that may be helpful if your route lies across burn country. Severe winter weather conditions retard most vegetation in higher elevations, head for the ridge tops.

One potential forest zone death trap commands respect. Pay prudent atten-

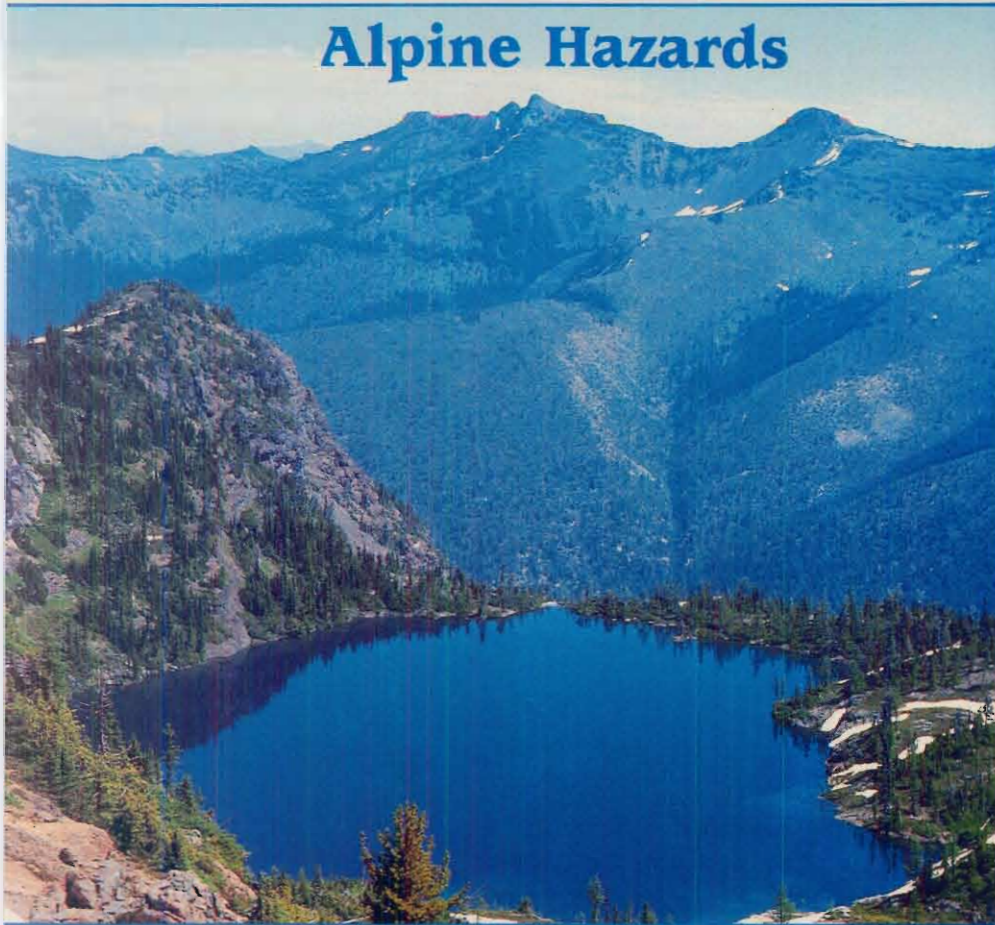
tion when camping nearby or fording streams. Never bivouac on stream sandbars or under large trees that storm winds could blow down. That seemingly innocent waterway becomes a dangerous torrent during spring thaw or bad weather.

Streams — Fording streams is relatively easy, however heavily burdened packers should never take fast moving water lightly. Keep your boots dry by removing them unless safety commands otherwise. Water proof pack perishables!

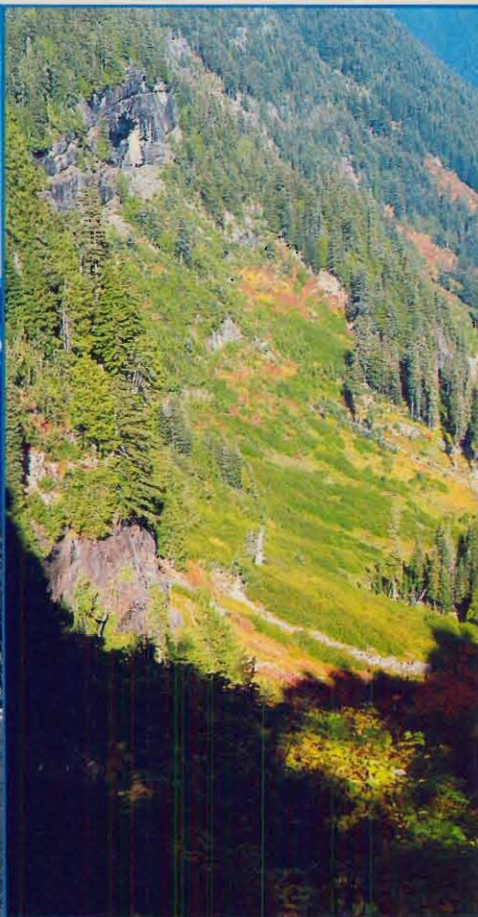
Unfasten your pack waist belt, a soggy pack has drowned many hikers. Face diagonally downstream towards the opposite shore and cross, utilizing the walking staff as an anchor.

Ford the current along shallow riffles positioned above or below deep pools. Beware of slippery bottom rock surfaces. Use that 50-foot nylon cord. Tied to a tree it becomes your safety

Alpine Hazards



These photos show scenes the author encountered while climbing in the north Cascade Mountains.



tow line. Don't tackle flooded channels without due forethought; death awaits beneath those surging waters. Never take unnecessary wilderness risks!

Toss a rope end with attached weight around objects on the opposite bank to create a safe line. Felled trees could span the torrent building a natural bridge. That deadfall log upstream provides the perfect natural traverse, however wet wood surfaces are slippery!

The strong cord you carry will tie together a pressure bar raft as a last resort. I highly recommend the plans published in the military survival manuals. Thoroughly study the stream and currents before committing the raft to a fording.

You encounter constantly changing alpine experiences as the ascent proceeds and obstacles are overcome. Timber stands begin to open, revealing sub-alpine meadows, the footing becomes easier.

Ensnarling jungles of scrub trees and brush choke avalanche paths.

Thinning oxygen gradually becomes apparent by your laboring lungs as the ascent continues. Take time to acclimatize, over exertion could lead to potentially fatal altitude sickness. Symptoms include dizziness, nausea, vomiting, and disorientation. Immediate descent to lower elevations with rest usually produces rapid relief.

How long does it take to acclimate? I've found that it's always taken at least 70 miles of continuous mountain marching over a period of a week to adjust to high elevation conditions. Start with an easy rate of five miles a day or less, and build physical endurance. Bearing heavy packs across mountainous terrain demands patience and a steady pace.

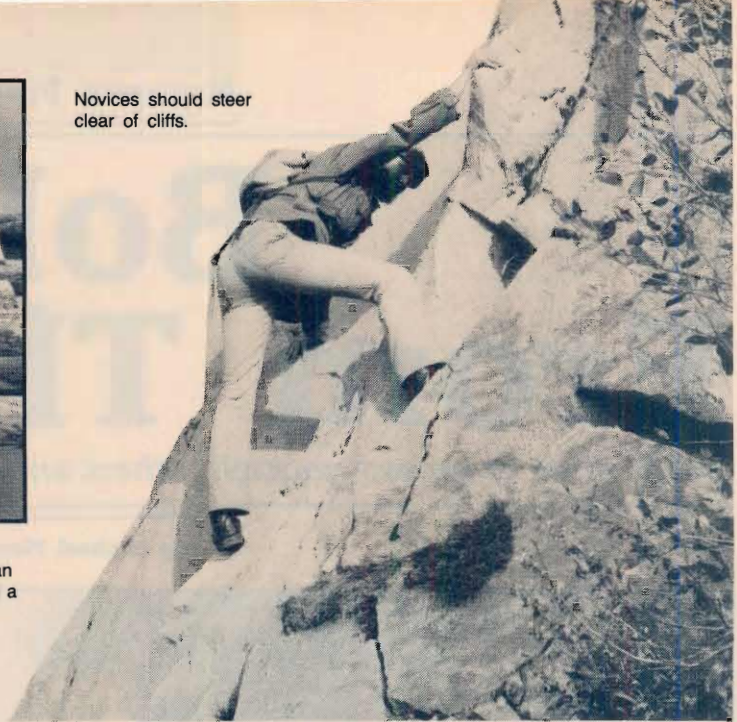
Always watch for ground hazards in order to avoid nasty falls. Once again, use your trusty walking staff, a broken leg could be the result of that unforeseen accident! Take care of yourself, the nearest constructed trail system of emergency services could be 20 miles from your position.

Conserve body energy by ascending or descending steep slopes in a switch-back manner. The distance to the top may be longer, but the amount of strength necessary to traverse the distance is considerably less. Utilize small trees, shrubs and solid rock to help steady footing.

The timberline retreats below, meadows become arctic tundra, the heights above reveal rock slides, precipitous



Novices should steer clear of cliffs.



ABOVE — The pressure bar raft can be constructed with a 50-foot rope.

craggs, avalanche paths descending from snowfields and glaciers. As you approach technical mountaineering country, stop, study the map and situation before acting. One faulty move could be fatal.

Glaciers — Glaciers and snowfields are extremely dangerous, particularly during spring thaw. Crevasses frequently lie hidden under thin surface layers of snow crust. Avalanches can occur at any time of year, especially along steep slopes.

Be cautious when traversing vertical snowfields. I've personally taken several frightening slides down frozen surfaces. Fractures or worse happen annually to trekkers who lose their footing. My best advice is don't cross any terrain you aren't absolutely sure of. If a fall does occur, dig into the frozen surface any way possible and slow your rate of descent.

Always pay attention to each step, thoroughly check each foothold before committing your body weight and moving forward. Remain calm, rest when necessary, traversing hazardous terrain while fatigued is deadly.

Boot crampons, ice axes, and rope help prevent falls. If you travel with companions, rope each other off for team security. There's a lot to be said for the buddy system.

On sun bright days prolonged exposure to intense light rays can lead to snow blindness. Polaroid glasses or black grease under the eyes help alleviate this condition. A blind man in the wilderness automatically becomes lost. Choose early morning or late afternoon hours to cross glaciers, the glare is considerably weaker.

Watch your step, the route leading upward towards that craggy pass spans unstable boulder slides. Loose rubble easily upsets, anyone hiking such ground instantly realizes how simple

it is to get hurt. Don't dislodge rocks upon companions climbing up from below, head injuries are among the worst accidents. High winds or fluctuating temperatures cause rock falls from unstable outcrops. Always watch the ground overhead.

You conquer the pass, an incredible alpine panorama unfolds, glaciated peaks extend, range upon range, seemingly forever. The night's campsite clearly radiates itself as sun rays reflect like diamonds off a tiny pristine lake snuggled in a hollow glacial moraine. A short cut considerably shortens the distance, but the way is partially obstructed by a precipitous granite wall.

Warning: cliffs aren't to be meddled with by novices! It's very easy to get trapped on a seemingly one-way traverse with no apparent escape. This could become very unpleasant when you're 20 miles from possible rescuers. Don't move before you are calm and able to clearly think. You are on your own.

Barometric changes are noticeable, rising winds and seething clouds rapidly mount promising a nasty thunderstorm. Mountain weather is unstable regardless of season. Immediately seek shelter, the ridgetops are dangerously exposed to lightning. Avoid hypothermia. Alpine winds are cold, make sure your warm clothes are kept dry.

Common everyday primitive environmental living demands proper hygiene. Avoid various forms of dysentery by maintaining clean eating habits and drinking pure water.

Always be wary of wilderness waters,

even that pristine rivulet descending from those snowfields above could host Giardia cysts. This pathogen is being widely spread by unsanitary campers and animals. Remember to carry the means of water purification with you.

If Lost — What does a person do when they become lost? Everyone is their own worst enemy during a survival crisis. Stay calm and above all avoid panic. Few North American regions except Alaska or Canada are located without intersecting traveled routes within 20 or 30 air miles.

Climb a high point with a clear view, study the major landscapes and map. In mountain country the watersheds usually descend toward inhabited or trailed valleys. Many wilderness experts believe in the theory of directly following a stream towards the hoped for crossroads. This is fine in the lowland woodlands, but in the hills watersheds frequently flow through nasty gorges.

First take stock of your food supplies, then head along a ridge and follow that creek with a clear view of the forward terrain. The ultimate decision is yours whether to move or await rescue.

Our wild areas increasingly attract people who search for freedom in the spirit of self reliance. Open your eyes to wilderness education and head for the mountains. The high country has historically always been a place of refuge during times of social upheaval. Afghanistan is a modern example of a mountain people's undaunted will to survive. ■

Bolts From The Blue

What to do to protect yourself, others and your home from lightning strikes. . .

By Michael Pietrantonio



This building was destroyed by lightning which struck a nearby power line sending a surge of electricity to the building's fuse box which burst into flames (Lightning Protection Institute).

OF all the displays of nature's raw power, one of the most beautiful and the most deadly is lightning. Lightning is nature's own fireworks show. It accounts for an average of 200 deaths and more than 1,000 injuries in the U.S. each year.

In an average year more people in the U.S. are killed by lightning than by floods, hurricanes, and tornadoes combined. The insurance industry estimates that lightning accounts for more than \$100 million in property damage

each year.

How can you minimize the chances that you or your property will fall victim to lightning damage? The first step is to understand what lightning is and the mechanism by which it can damage both people and property.

Lightning is a spark caused by the discharge of an accumulated electric charge within a cloud. The discharge may take place within a single cloud, from one cloud to another, or from the ground to a cloud. Very rarely light-

ning may occur in clear skies. It was probably this type of lightning which gave rise to the expression "bolt out of the blue."

Thunderclouds (which are the main generators of lightning) usually carry a positive electric charge in their upper regions. The lower portions of thunderclouds generally carry a negative electric charge. The mechanism by which electric charges are built up in a cloud is not fully understood. One current theory holds that precipitation within

a thundercloud carries the heavier and mostly negatively charged particles such as raindrops, downward, while the violent winds and updrafts within the cloud carry the lighter, positively charged ice crystals and cloud droplets upward, thus separating the cloud into two polarized regions.

While all this is happening within a thundercloud, below, the earth's natural electric charge is slightly positive. As the negative charge on the bottom of the thundercloud builds up, there is a corresponding increase in the positive charge on the earth below the cloud.

As the electrical charges of the earth and cloud build, the electrical attraction between them grows. Since air stands between the charges meeting, and air is a very poor electrical conductor, the positive earth charge seeks an object which it can climb to lessen the amount of air through which it must travel.

The object may be a person, tree, building, etc. Once the positive charge is above ground level, negative ions in the air become attracted to the rising positive charge and begin to form a channel upon which the positive charge can continue to climb.

During this time the base of the cloud is also emitting a negative charge known as a step-leader. When the step-leader makes contact with the rising positive charge a circuit is completed and a white-hot return stroke leaps skyward.

The return stroke super heats the air (until it glows) along the ionized channel to the cloud. That glowing superheated air is the lightning stroke which we see. Thunder, which often accompanies a lightning strike, is the result of the very rapid superheating of the air in the ionized lightning channel.

Contrary to what our eyes tell us, a lightning stroke almost always flows from ground to cloud, not the other way around.

All of this takes place in millionths of a second and the amount of energy released in that short time is phenomenal. A lightning bolt may have an electrical potential of from 10 to 50 million volts and a temperature of up to 50,000 degrees F.

Protecting Yourself — The immense power released by a lightning bolt can damage people and property in a number of different ways. If lightning strikes an object that contains trapped moisture,



Golf courses are frequent targets of lightning. Here the metal tip on the flagpole was struck, resulting in burn slivers radiating up to 18 feet from the point of impact (Roy Dabner, Ft. Madison Democrat-Lightning Protection Institute).

such as a tree or boulder, that moisture will instantly turn to ultraheated steam and will often result in the object exploding. Persons or objects can also be damaged by the immense electrical charge carried by a lightning bolt. For an individual, a direct or nearby lightning strike can bring about all the injuries associated with electrocution. Burns and respiratory and/or cardiac arrest are frequently seen in victims struck by lightning.

Because of the intense heat generated in the area of a strike, lightning is responsible for starting many fires. There are an estimated 10,000 forest fires started by lightning each year. These fires account for the annual loss of up to 2 million acres of woodlands in the U.S.

For the individual, protection against the possibility of becoming a lightning victim falls into two categories. The first is knowledge of when and where lightning is likely to strike, and the second is physical precautions that can be taken to minimize the chances of being struck.

Of the approximately 200 deaths per year caused by lightning in the U.S., 90 percent occur between May and September, with the months June through August having the greatest percentage of lightning fatalities. This statistic makes sense when one takes into account the greater number of storms which occur in the heat and humidity of the summer, as well as the fact that outdoor recreation in the U.S. is mainly a summer activity.

Among those activities with high lightning fatality rates are golfing, water sports, hiking, and tractor-related farming. Of these, water sports represent the majority of the lightning related fatalities. According to the National Climatic Center, 40 percent of lightning deaths take place in, on, or near bodies of open water. The most hazardous water related activities — fishing, boating, and swimming.

Golf by its very nature exposes the player to a higher than average chance of being hit by lightning. As with hiking, and less so camping, golf is generally played on open terrain where the player represents a high spot on the terrain, and is thus more exposed to lightning strikes. A metal golf club, held high, can act as a lightning rod and provide a path of least resistance for a lightning strike.

This lightning rod effect is not confined to golf clubs. Backpacks with metal frames, bicycles, open golf carts, tractors, motorcycles, even metal tent poles, can all serve as surrogate lightning rods. Your safest course of action if caught in a lightning storm is to get as much distance as possible between you and any metal object you might be using. The more distance between yourself and potential lightning rods, the less chance you will have of falling victim to lightning "side flash."

Side flash is a phenomenon which occurs when lightning strikes an object on the ground and there is another good electrical conductor (in this case, you)

(Continued on page 44)

Backyard Garden

You don't have to live in the country to reap a bounty of vegetables. . .

by Leonard Rycerz Jr.

GROWING things in your backyard isn't that hard.

For example, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Rycerz of Wheeling, West Virginia, canned 50 quarts of tomatoes, 12 quarts of pickles, and froze enough peppers and onions to last the summer and most of winter. And all of this came from a backyard garden that measured 20 by 20 feet!

If considering such a feat of your own, one of the first things you should do is determine where you're going to place your garden. Try to keep the garden as close to your house as possible.

Second, know the needs of your family, their likes and dislikes, and the amount of time you'll have to spend in the garden. It is better that you do a good job with a small garden than a poor job with a large garden.

The site of your garden must include plenty of sunlight, good air circulation, a windbreak if the area you live in is constantly windy, be at a distance from trees or large shrubs, and have good soil structure.

Then with pencil and paper, sit down and make a sketch of your garden according to this information.

After having selected a site, have a sample of the soil sent to a soil laboratory for analysis. Your county agriculture department or local garden center can assist you in this project.

Soil varies widely in different parts of the country, and this analysis will tell how much fertilizer, nutrients and lime you'll need to add to the soil and the pH factor.

The pH of a soil indicates the degree of acidity and alkalinity. Most plants grow best in a pH range of 5.5 to 7.0. But there are some plants that grow best in a low pH or a high pH. Plants that do well in an acid soil are blueberries, sweet potatoes and potatoes. Plants that take to an alkaline soil are asparagus, onions, lettuce and peas.

To change the soil, for the benefit of those plants that grow best in that



Leonard and Nicky Rycerz, a father-daughter gardener team, stand next to their tomatoe crop which is about ready to harvest.

soil, add lime or sulfur. Adding lime increases the pH by reducing the soil acidity. Adding sulfur will increase the soil acidity, reducing the pH.

When the results of the test come back, spread the fertilizer, chemical nutrients, manure (cow manure is best) and whatever else is needed over the garden area at the recommended rate and mix well with the topsoil as you prepare the ground for planting.

When mixing the soil, drive the spade down to its full length and turn the dirt. Work at a steady pace, and

treat the soil as though the dirt were a living substance — because the soil is!

Don't work the soil when wet, and don't dig when the ground is frost covered. Burying frosty soil means it will take longer for the soil to warm up.

When the soil is dark black, pick up a handful of the soil and learn to know the feel of it. Make a ball of the soil in your hand, the dirt should crumble under its own weight, not stick to your fingers. Squeezing the soil between

your fingers should make the dirt smear.

Whether you start your plants from seed or buy them in their young stage of growth, it is best that you grow the plants indoors, waiting for the right time to put the plants in the soil of your garden. Growing plants indoors, waiting for the spring frost to subside, is a fascinating form of farming. Keep in mind that since growing space is limited, container-grown vegetables need more feeding and more water than when growing in open ground in the garden. Ideally, the best place to grow such plants are in a greenhouse, a hot-bed or cold frame, but if you don't have any of these, you can still grow your plants indoors.

After making sure the soil in the pots is well fed with nutrients, plenty of water is available, and each seed or plant is placed in the right sized pot, the next thing to worry about is sunlight.

Placing the pots near a large window that faces the sun most of the day is very helpful. Make sure the window is not shaded by a large tree.

A cool, white fluorescent lamp hanging from the ceiling, is another light source for the plants. Leave the light on during the better part of the day, and turn the light off when it's dark outside, adjusting the plants to the rising and setting of the sun.

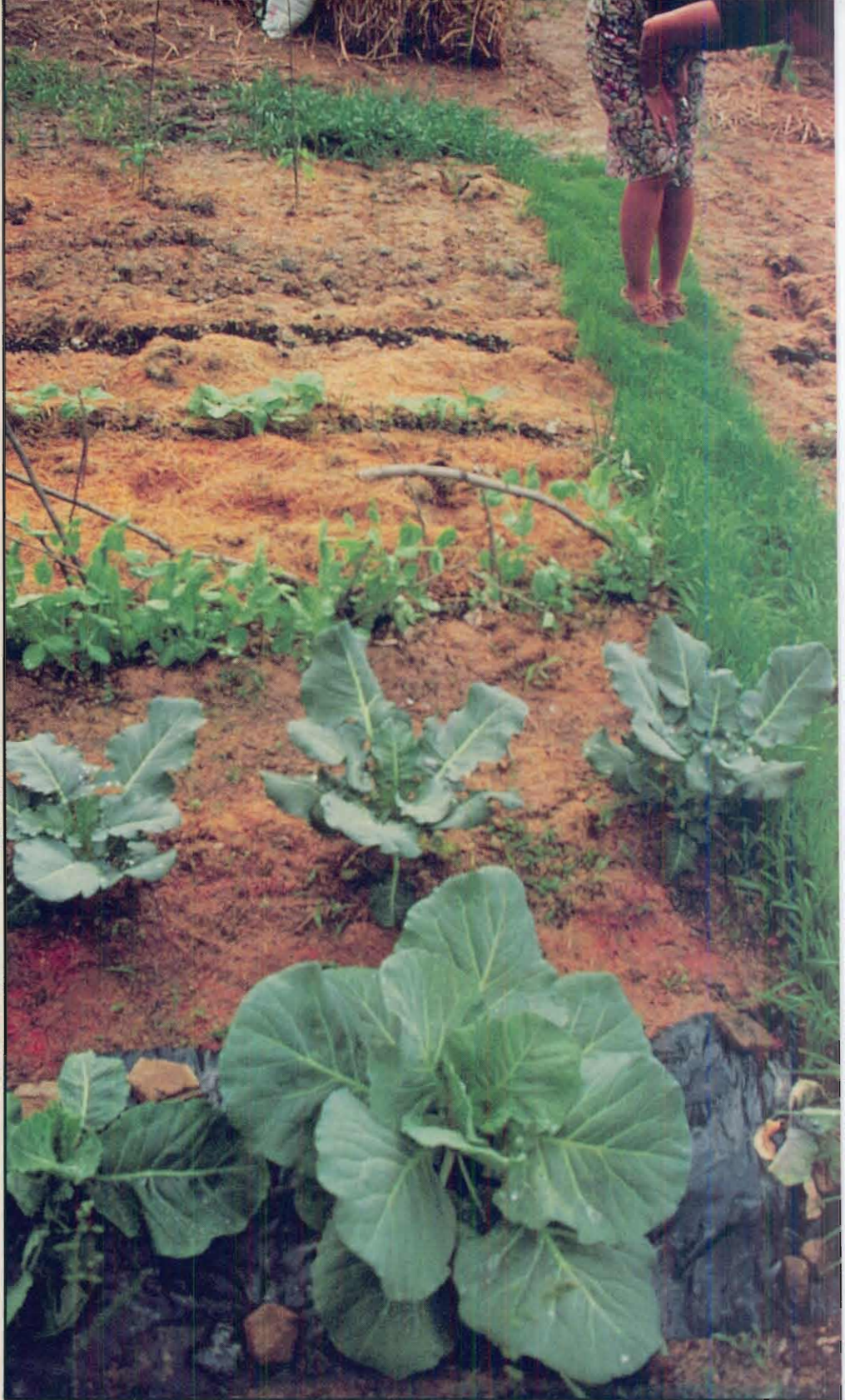
If you do construct a chamber for growing plants indoors, the surfaces of the inside chamber should be painted white or at least made of a reflective material to increase the light available.

Gradually, take the potted plants outside, during the warm part of the day, to adjust them to the environment. This procedure will prevent the plants from going into shock and dying.

When the plants are stocky, having developed a good color, are disease free, and the last of the spring frosts are over at least according to the weather station (keep an open mind in any case), the plants are ready for transplanting in the garden.

Peat pots are the best kind of pots to use for starting and growing indoor plants in because when the plant is ready for transplanting, you simply put both pot and plant in the soil.

Transplanting Done — Once the plants have been transplanted, it doesn't mean you can now sit back and collect the vegetables as they grow. It means you now have to water the garden, watch the weather, provide the



Cauliflower, peas, string beans and peppers grow in this home garden with a walkway of grass.

plants with supports, spread mulch and check for pests.

When putting the potted plants into the soil, don't just place the plants wherever you want. Put them in some kind of specific order, and label the supports, holding the plants, with the

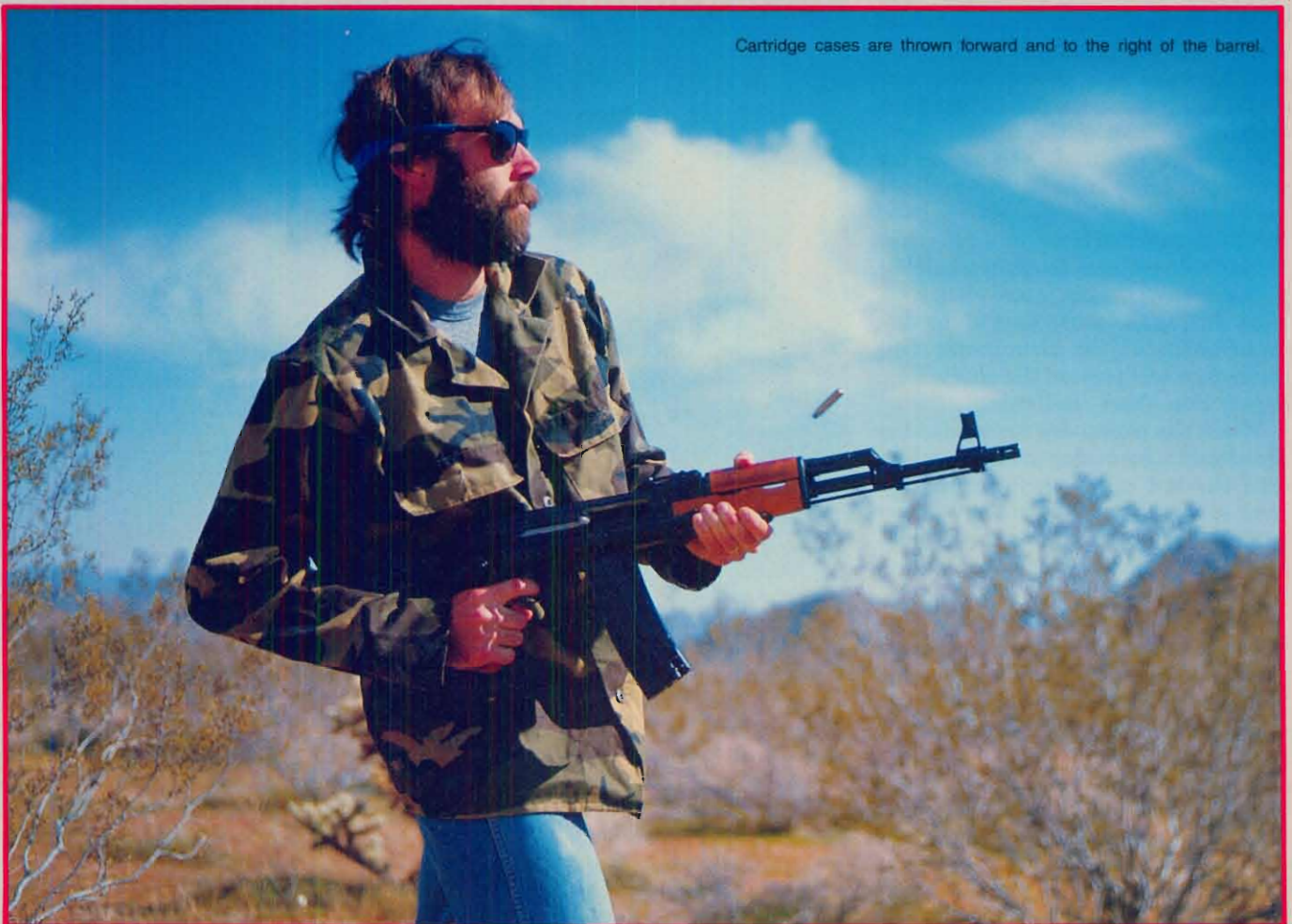
name of the variety.

When the plants and plant supports (bamboo staffs are very popular plant supports) are in the ground, the next best thing to do is spread mulch. Mulch is a material that is laid on the sur-

(Continued on page 76)



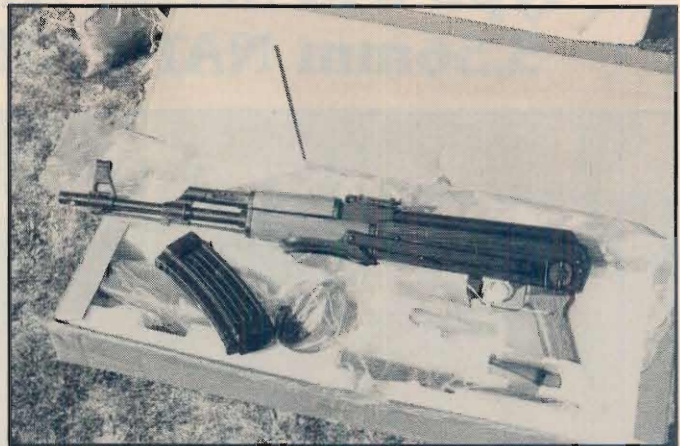
Cartridge cases are thrown forward and to the right of the barrel.



Type 84S Series AK-47 5.56mm NATO Rifles

Powerful, sturdy, budget assault rifles from PRC...

By Jim Benson



Each rifle is shipped with three 30-round magazines, web sling, bayonet with scabbard, oiler and cleaning gear and instruction manual.

THE NORINCO (China North Industries Corp.) 84S Series AK-47 semi-automatic rifles are chambered for the 5.56mm NATO rounds, including the new SS109 5.56mm improved ammunition made for the latest versions of the M16 rifle. These weapons are being imported from the People's Republic of China and distributed here in the U.S. by Territorial Armory of Tucson.

Territorial has two NORINCO 84S rifles available in 5.56 NATO (.223

Rem.) caliber. These are the standard 84S model with fixed wood buttstock and the 84S-1 model with downward folding metal stock. Territorial also offers a NORINCO AK-47 chambered for the Russian 7.62 X 39mm cartridge with a sideways folding metal stock.

We were loaned an 84S and 84S-1 by Territorial Armory for testing and evaluation. Each rifle is shipped with three 30-round magazines, bayonet and scabbard, oiler and cleaning gear and

owners manual.

The receivers are stamped steel. The trunnions are forged and machined steel and the barrels are ordnance turned steel. The wood used for the buttstocks, handgrips and forends of the 84S series is lacquered Manchurian Chu wood which is resistant to mold, cracking and weathering. The NORINCO AKs are your basic gas-operated, rotating, locking bolt, semiauto military type rifles.

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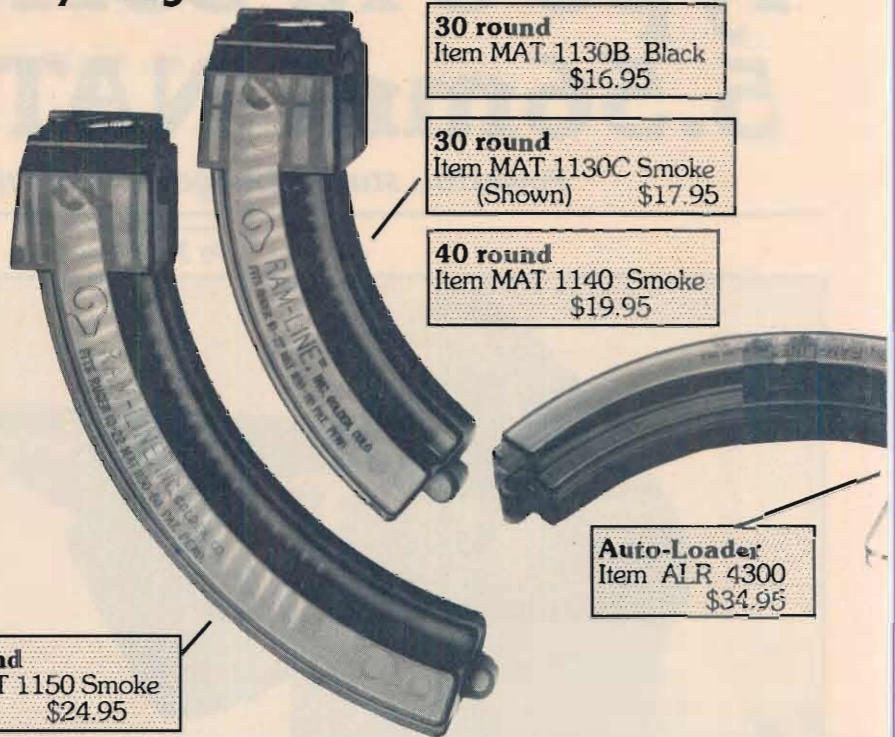
30 round
Item MAT 1130B Black
\$16.95

30 round
Item MAT 1130C Smoke
(Shown) \$17.95

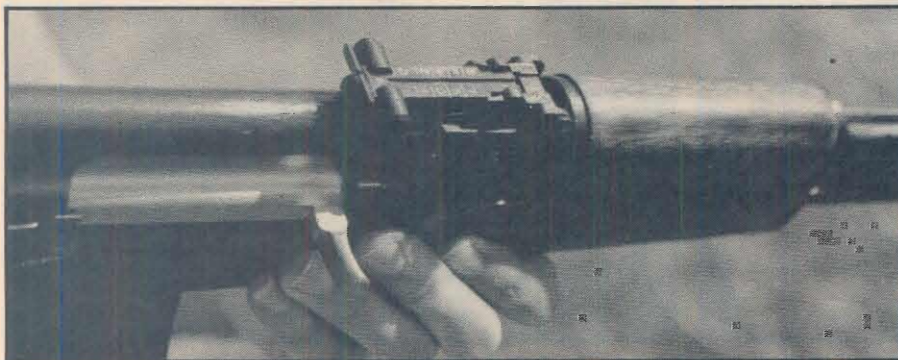
40 round
Item MAT 1140 Smoke
\$19.95

Auto-Loader
Item ALR 4300
\$34.95

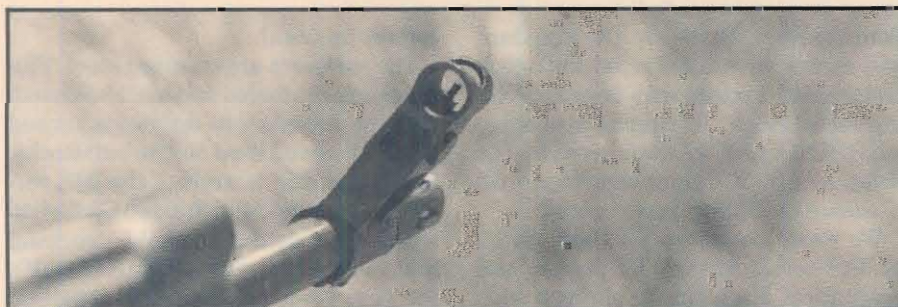
50 round
Item MAT 1150 Smoke
\$24.95



Type 84S Series AK-47 5.56mm NATO Rifles



The rear sight is a v-notch adjustable in increments of 100 meters.



The front sight is a ringed post adjustable for windage and elevation.

The weapons we used are certainly sturdy and effective. They would probably have more appeal to the budget conscious buyer than other AKs we've looked at and shot. The 84S is referred to as "your under \$400 assault rifle" by Territorial Armory President Joe Horn. They're not as finely finished and crafted as, say, the Chinese Poly Technologies AKs distributed by Territorial Armory which we reviewed in the March 1988 issue, but they performed just as well, although with different caliber ammunition.

Testing — We took the rifles out and up to a secluded high desert location here in southern California and tried them out, running about 160 rounds of mil spec, non-corrosive NORINCO 5.56 NATO ammo through them in rapid and slow, aimed fire at targets 100 and 200 to 250 yards distant.

We were impressed with how well these weapons handled and shot, how easy it was to use the sights and how accurate they were right out of the box.

The .223 is generally a light recoil round and these rifles proved no exception, throwing the empty cases about 15 feet forward and to the right of the

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Chief AJ

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shooters.

The ringed post front sight makes sighting your target quick and easy and we noted how quickly we were able to pick up the target in our sights again and again after each squeeze of the trigger. We watched in wonder as each shooter — standing and firing without a rest — was able to make repeated hits on and very close to a bent cactus on the side of a mountain some 250 yards away as we went through

magazine after magazine full of ammo with the rifles.

After firing close to 60 rounds rapid fire in the fixed stock model, we observed that the barrel was hot and oil on it was smoking but there was no damage to the wood handguard and the rifle continued to fire effectively. With all of the ammunition fired in the rifles, no malfunctions were experienced and performance was flawless.

The NORINCO .223 AK-47s are avail-

able at the suggested retail price of \$399 for the fixed stock model and \$409 for the folding metal buttstock model at gun dealers or directly from Territorial Armory's retail store in Tucson, along with a wide assortment of accessories and other firearms, ammunition and survival gear. The 84S Series AK-47s are powerful, effective weapons for self defense, survival or other uses. For details see your gun dealer or contact Territorial Armory. ●



The 84S flash hider.

NORINCO 84S AK-47 5.56mm NATO Rifle: Tech Specs

Caliber	5.56mm NATO (.223 Rem.)
Weight, w/o magazine	7 lbs., 6½ ozs.
Lengths:	
Overall	36 inches
Barrel, w/o flash hider	16 inches
Sights:	
Front	ringed post adjustable
Rear	v-notch adjustable for windage and elevation
Sight radius	15 inches
Magazine capacity	30 rounds
Price, retail	\$399
Importer/Distributor	Territorial Armory, Dept. ASG, 4455 S. Park, Suite 106, Tucson, AZ 85714; (602) 741-2333.

NORINCO 84S-1 AK-47 5.56mm NATO Rifle: Tech Specs

Caliber	5.56mm NATO (.223 Rem.)
Weight, w/o magazine	7 lbs., 10½ ozs.
Lengths:	
Overall, w/stock folded	26½ inches
w/stock extended	36 inches
Barrel	16 inches
Sights:	
Rear	v-notch adjustable
Front	ringed post adjustable for windage, elevation
Sight radius	15 inches
Magazine capacity	30 rounds
Price, retail	\$409
Importer/Distributor	Territorial Armory, Dept. ASG, 4455 S. Park, Suite 106, Tucson, AZ 85714; (602) 741-2333.

Surviving With Diabetes

*With proper preparation and planning,
a survival situation can be no different for a diabetic
than for a person without the disorder. . .*

By Todd M. Stanford



Common table sugar can be administered under the tongue of an unconscious diabetic as a first aid measure.

IT IS the nature of most humans to resent having to be dependent on anyone or anything. One of the basic tenets of the survivalist is self sufficiency.

For the average person who is reasonably well prepared, the survival situation provides a challenge, a welcome break from routine. Overlooking an item when storing emergency supplies can mean only inconvenience. For people with certain medical problems however, an item forgotten can result in certain death. Diabetes is just such a problem.

Several years ago an earthquake shattered large areas of Argentina. Medical authorities were pleading with the drug companies to get them insulin. They were even begging for the precious drug to be parachuted into some areas. It is obvious then, that any survivalist group that has diabetics or "borderline" diabetics as members must plan and make provision for an interruption of life-sustaining medication.

At present it is estimated that five million people in the United States are known diabetics. These are people who have diabetes and must take specific actions to control it.

When saying "diabetes" we are referring to a disorder known technically as "diabetes mellitus." Diabetes is a term used to describe an inadequate supply of effective insulin in the blood.

Insulin is a hormone produced by the pancreas. Insulin is necessary for the transport, storage and utilization of glucose (sugar) by the body. All cells in the body need glucose to function. Glucose is essentially the "fuel" the cells "burn."

Glucose is provided by the metabolism of carbohydrates. When there is no intake of carbohydrates the liver releases a form of glucose which it had previously stored (glycogen). In a normal person the pancreas is stimulated to release insulin to enable the glucose to pass through the cell membranes for use.

In a person with diabetes, either the pancreas does not produce any insulin or the insulin it produces is chemically inactive. As a result, the glucose cannot pass through the cell membrane and remains in the blood.

This tends to shift the body's fluid balance so that water leaves the cells and enters the bloodstream, often dehydrating the patient. As the blood passes through the kidneys, this excess water and glucose is removed from the blood and subsequently excreted from the body in urine. It is this mechanism which produces some of the classic signs and symptoms of diabetes: frequent urination, glycosuria (glucose in the urine), and virtually unquenchable thirst (resulting from the body's attempt to replenish intracellular fluid lost during dehydration).

Additionally, since the cells are not getting an adequate supply of fuel for energy production, the patient fatigues easily. Healing of minor wounds, particularly of the extremities, is greatly delayed. This frequently results in infections.

There is a greater incidence of atherosclerosis (hardening of the arteries) in diabetics. When the vessels supplying the extremities are affected, the supply of oxygen to their tissues is drastically reduced. Thus, gangrene is a common complication of diabetes which ultimately requires the affected extremity to be amputated.

While the actual cause of diabetes is uncertain, it is felt to be partially hereditary and it is known that physical and/or emotional stress can precipitate the disease in those individuals who are predisposed to it. The emotional and physiological changes brought on by pregnancy, for example, have been known to trigger diabetes in a previously healthy patient. Obviously the stress and dietary changes that would be inherent in a true survival situation might be all that's required for diabetes to be manifested.

Diabetic Emergencies — Whether in a post-disaster survival situation or just attempting daily survival in today's world, it is very important for the dia-

betic to wear a Medic Alert bracelet or medallion. This little piece of inexpensive jewelry can mean the difference between rapid identification of an emergency condition or mistaking it for alcohol intoxication. In other words, the difference between life and death.

Hypoglycemia, or insulin shock, is a condition which suddenly develops as a result of an abnormally low serum (blood) glucose level. This can be caused from the administration of too much insulin or the intake of insufficient quantities of carbohydrates. The patient, often found unconscious or "out of his head," is usually drooling. He will be very weak, if movement is attempted at all.

His breathing will range from shallow to normal depth and rate (normal respiratory rate is 16 to 20 breaths per minute). The patient will usually be pale with cool, moist skin. Blood pressure will usually be normal, as will be the pulse.

As more and more brain cells are deprived of glucose, seizure activity will occur. If emergency treatment is withheld or delayed for very long, death can occur. Fortunately, you do not have to be a physician to provide life saving emergency care.

First Aid — If the patient is conscious, provide him with a glass of fruit juice with a spoon of sugar stirred into it and assist him to drink it.

If the patient is unconscious, open his mouth and place about a teaspoon of sugar (1 packet) under his tongue. NEVER attempt to give liquids to an unconscious patient. If someone with the capability and medication is present, 50 percent dextrose in water (D50) should be administered intravenously. Fifty percent dextrose should NEVER be administered by any route other than intravenously. Intramuscular injection will only result in irritation and damage to the muscle tissue. Another emergency medication for insulin shock is Glucagon. The advantage of this is it can be administered intramuscularly or intravenously. The disadvantage of Glucagon is that it works by mobilizing glycogen stored in the liver and converting it to glucose.

If there is an inadequate supply of glycogen stored in the liver, it simply will not work. If the patient is only suffering a hypoglycemic episode, the reaction to the sugar will occur within minutes. The patient will become alert, fully conscious, and unaware of what



Insulin must be stockpiled like any other necessity and rotated to keep stocks relatively fresh.

has transpired. The effect is quite dramatic. If after 5 to 10 minutes the patient's condition has not improved, the administration of sugar (or D50) can be repeated.

Hyperglycemia, or diabetic coma, occurs over a period of days. It is caused by an inadequate supply of insulin to utilize the carbohydrates the patient has ingested.

The patient will look sick. He will be extremely thirsty. He will have no appetite and may complain of abdominal pain. He may be vomiting. His skin will appear flushed and will usually be dry.

He will be breathing deeply and more rapidly than normal. His pulse will be weak and rapid and his blood pressure will be lower than normal.

The patient's breath will have a distinctive, sickeningly sweet, fruity odor to it. This odor most closely resembles the smell of unscented nail polish remover. Acetone, a ketone, is usually the active ingredient in nail polish remover. As the concentration of glucose in the blood increases, ketones are produced. A small amount of these ketones is eliminated through the lungs and results in the "acetone breath." Left untreated, the condition can deteriorate and the patient lapse into coma followed by death.

Immediate emergency treatment consists of administering insulin intravenously or intramuscularly. Saline solution must be administered intravenously in order to rehydrate the body. The first liter of saline should be administered over a period of 20 to 60 minutes. Subsequent replacement therapy should be titrated according

Diabetes

to the patient's condition.

Controlling Diabetes — One or a combination of treatment regimens are followed to control diabetes. A direct correlation has been established between diabetes and obesity. Frequently obese patients with diabetes are put on a prescribed diet aimed at reducing their weight to an acceptable level.

Once the excess weight is lost, the diabetes disappears. These patients may be considered as borderline diabetics but will probably need to do little more than control their weight to remain asymptomatic.

When determining an effective course of treatment for a diabetic patient, a physician will often have the patient keep very accurate records of his dietary intake as well as glucose levels in the blood at different times of the day for a week or so.

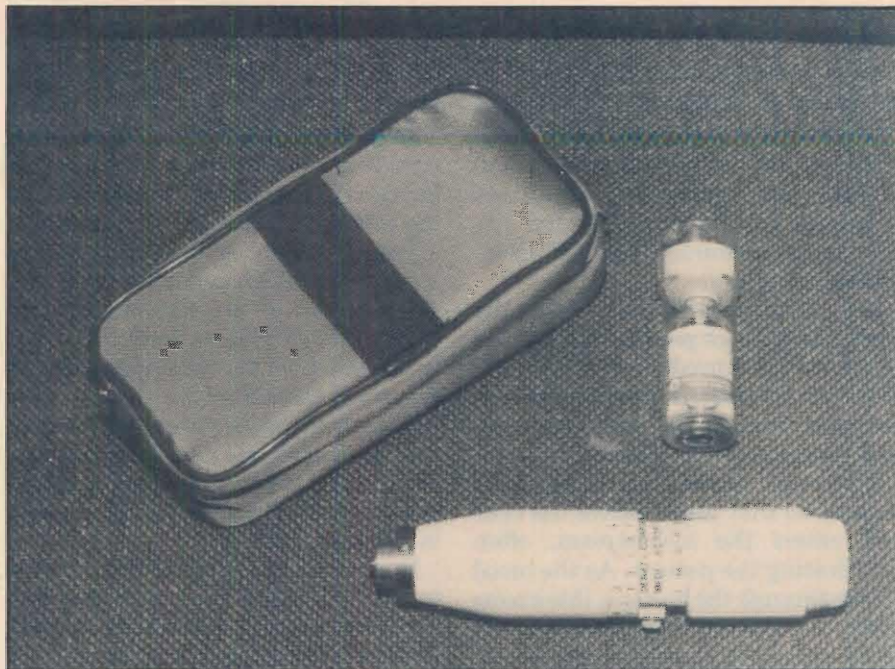
After reviewing the resultant data, the physician then decides which mode of treatment will be most effective for the individual. Control can sometimes be maintained by closely monitoring and adjusting carbohydrate intake to adjust the serum glucose to within normal limits.

If diet alone fails, some patients can control their diabetes through the use of diet and oral medications. When this fails, insulin must be given daily by injection. The most effective way to control serum glucose is to monitor dietary intake and inject appropriate amounts of insulin several times throughout the day. Since this is impractical for most people, the insulin is usually administered subcutaneously (just under the skin) in the morning or evening and a strict diet followed throughout the day.

Diabetics have exchange charts that allow for flexibility in what they eat and still provide strict compliance with the prescribed total intake of carbohydrates. The diabetic emergencies described earlier usually result from a deviation from the prescribed routine.

The control plan is based on the body's needs given a certain level of exercise and stress, as well as diet. When these factors are altered, problems arise.

The survival situation can drastically alter all the factors a control plan is based upon. Since it is imperative for



Insulin and the newer "auto-jector." While more expensive than needles, this would be a good way to administer insulin in a survival situation.

the diabetic to follow a plan diet, exercise and medication in his daily routine, it follows that plans should be devised for controlling his serum glucose levels should a situation arise which confronts him with increased stress, decreased diet, altered levels of exercise and the elimination of an external source of medication.

The first step for the diabetic to take in planning for an interrupted supply of insulin is consultation with his physician. The physician should be able to prescribe a dose schedule designed to meet the various levels of carbohydrate intake from the specific foods the patient is storing, given varying levels of activity and stress.

Testing is ordinarily a part of the diabetic's daily routine. At the same time each day the diabetic tests his urine for its glucose level using a plastic strip with chemicals impregnated on one end. The chemicals turn different colors to correspond to different levels of glucose. A color comparison chart is supplied with each bottle of test strips.

More accurate determinations can be made by testing a small sample of the blood directly. Test strips are available for this purpose.

Alternatively, the patient can use one of the electronic instruments presently being marketed for making very accurate serum glucose determinations in the home. Ample supplies for whatever testing method(s)

will be used should be stockpiled.

Bear in mind, a much closer watch on serum glucose levels will be required in the survival situation than ordinarily is needed. This is due to the wide variance in energy output, demands of stress and difficulty in maintaining a constant carbohydrate intake.

Inquiries to drug companies revealed the existence of a crystalline form of insulin that is diluted prior to injection and is used for research purposes. This at first sounded promising, until it was learned that the shelf life of this material is only one year — when refrigerated. Therefore, those diabetics who depend on insulin should stockpile the drug. By coordinating with your pharmacist, you should be able to procure the freshest insulin available.

If necessary, calls to several pharmacies can be made to locate the insulin with the longest shelf life available. Insulin can be stored, at room temperature, for up to two years. By noting the expiration date on a particular bottle of insulin and buying only medication with a reasonably long shelf life, up to a two-year's supply could be stockpiled. The patient would need to rotate his stock, using the oldest insulin first and replacing it with the medication having a two-year shelf life. Thus he would be constantly using medication he had stockpiled.

(Continued on page 32)

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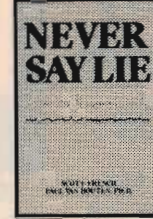
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Diabetes

(Continued from page 30)



Common table sugar and hard candy are valuable items for any medical first aid kit when dealing with diabetics.



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Hypodermic needles, of course, should also be stockpiled. The same principle should be applied to oral medications. Medications and carbohydrate sources to deal with diabetic emergencies should be stored as well. These should include hard candy, sugar, Insta Glucose (an oral glucose preparation supplied in unit dose plastic squeeze tubes), and dextrose 50 percent in water (D50) for IV injection.

Wound Care — Due to decreased circulation in the extremities, diabetics must pay very close attention to wound care and care of their feet to prevent injury. In addition to medical supplies, several pairs of comfortable shoes should be placed with the survival kit. Appropriate topical antibiotics should be available, as well as dressing and bandaging materials to prevent and treat wound infection.

For survival communities or groups, the individual(s) charged with the group's medical responsibilities should be made aware of any diabetics or borderline diabetics in the group. The medic should ensure that the group has an adequate supply of test materials and medications to handle diabetic problems, or at least hypoglycemic emergencies.

If the diabetic used the same approach in dealing with his medical supplies as he does with any other necessity, the survival situation will be no different for him than it is for an individual without that particular disorder. ●

EMP - ELECTROMAGNETIC PULSE

Simple precautions taken now can insure that you will have an automobile that works when you need it during a crisis . . .

In 1977 two bolts of lightning struck the Northeast power grid and plunged the city of New York into a blackout which, because of the looting and violence that erupted, has come to be known as "the night of the animals."

Those lightning bolts illustrated the fragility of the system upon which we so heavily depend. Yet those lightning bolts which caused so much damage, were a hundred times weaker than the surge of electricity produced by a high-atmosphere nuclear explosion. This electrical surge phenomenon, known as **Electromagnetic Pulse, EMP**, has in the past few years been recognized as one of the greatest potential threats to the U.S. ability to fight, survive, and recover from a **nuclear war**.

For **survivalists** the EMP threat is to any of their equipment and supplies which use electronic components. Everything from radios and electronic watches to the **Electronic Ignition and Control Systems** found in newer vehicles is subject to the destructive force of EMP. By Michael Pletrantoni (article appeared in American Survival Guide 86).

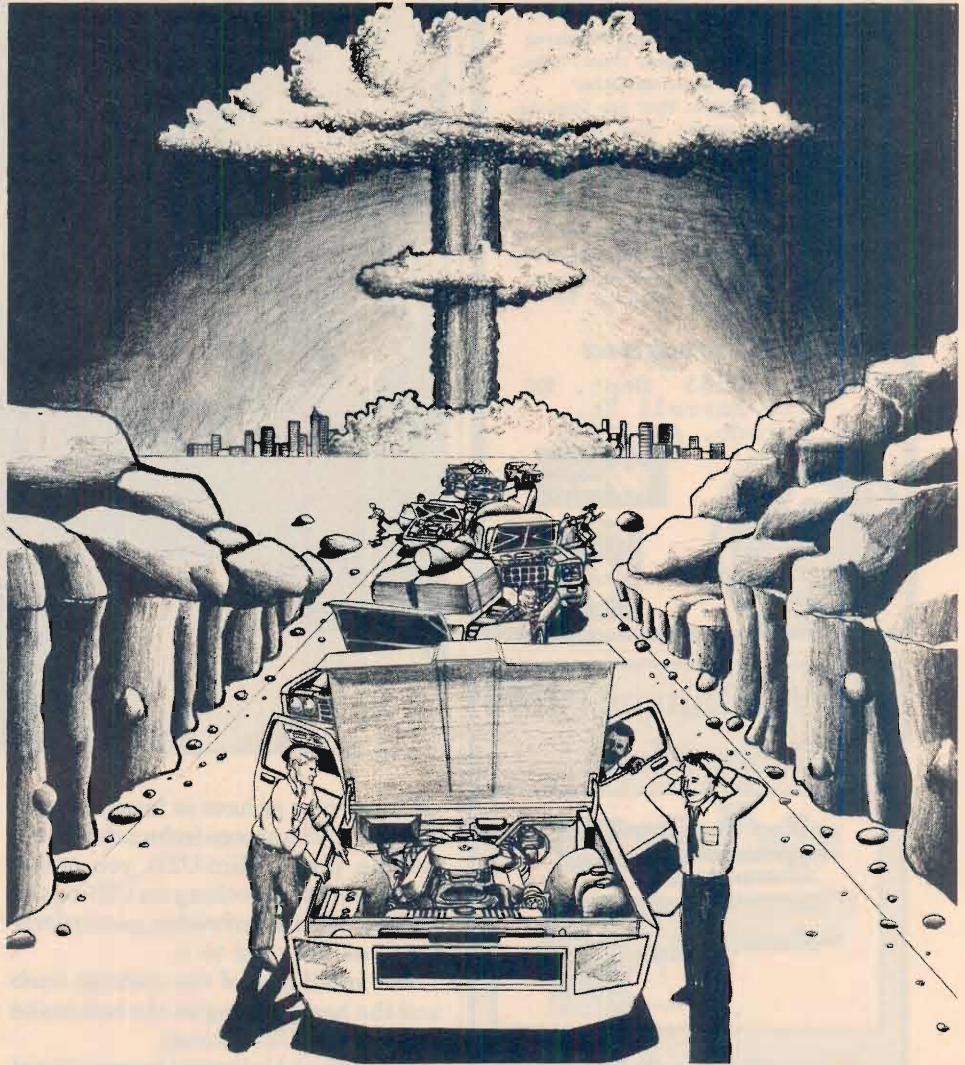
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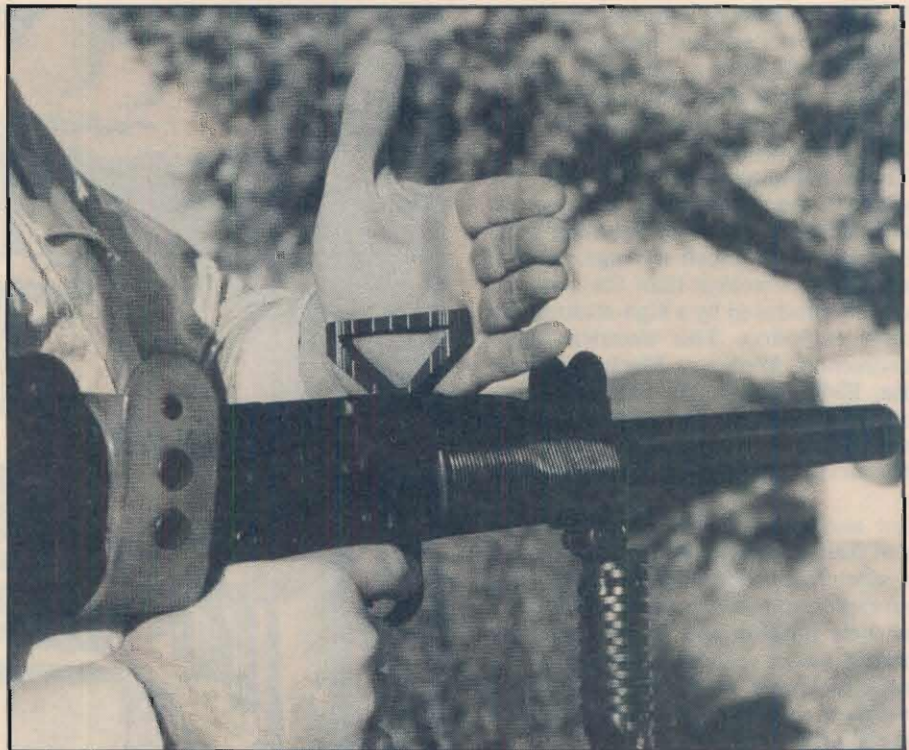
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Attack Unlimited International:

UZI Cocking Handle

Multi-use cocking bar for UZI weapons . . .

Staff Report



If you own or have at least shot one of the UZI weapons (submachine gun, carbine, pistol, Mini-UZI), you probably noticed that cocking a UZI can be difficult and uncomfortable, particularly for those not used to it.

The small size of the cocking knob and the heavy spring on the bolt make cocking the UZI a chore.

Now Attack Unlimited International has come up with a solution: the UZI Cocking Bar. This steel alloy triangular bar is easily installed with only an

Allen wrench supplied with it and has six functions. These are: cocking the weapon, carrying it, target framing, range finding, hanging it from a nail or peg or as a stand for the weapon.

The UZI Cocking Bar is sold in a kit complete with socket-stud screw, spring-lock washer, Allen wrench and small amount of Vibra-Tite. It is available for \$30 from AUI, Dept. ASG, 1645 N. Vine St., Suite 510, Hollywood, CA 90028; (213) 466-0641. California residents add 6 percent sales tax. ●



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B-Square's mount has a standard dovetail so any Weaver-type ring (not included) or device can be attached. The gun's sights can be used with the scope installed.

The mount retails for \$69.95 in blue finish or \$79.95 in stainless finish. It's available at dealers and distributors everywhere, or contact B-Square for more information.



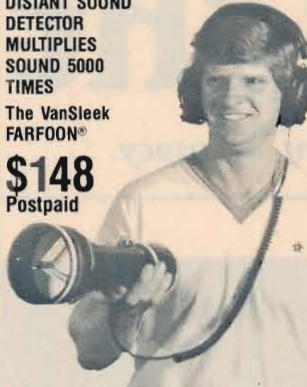
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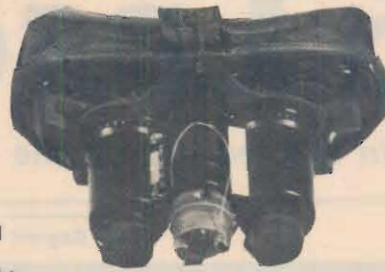
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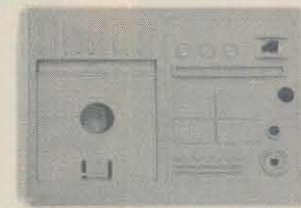


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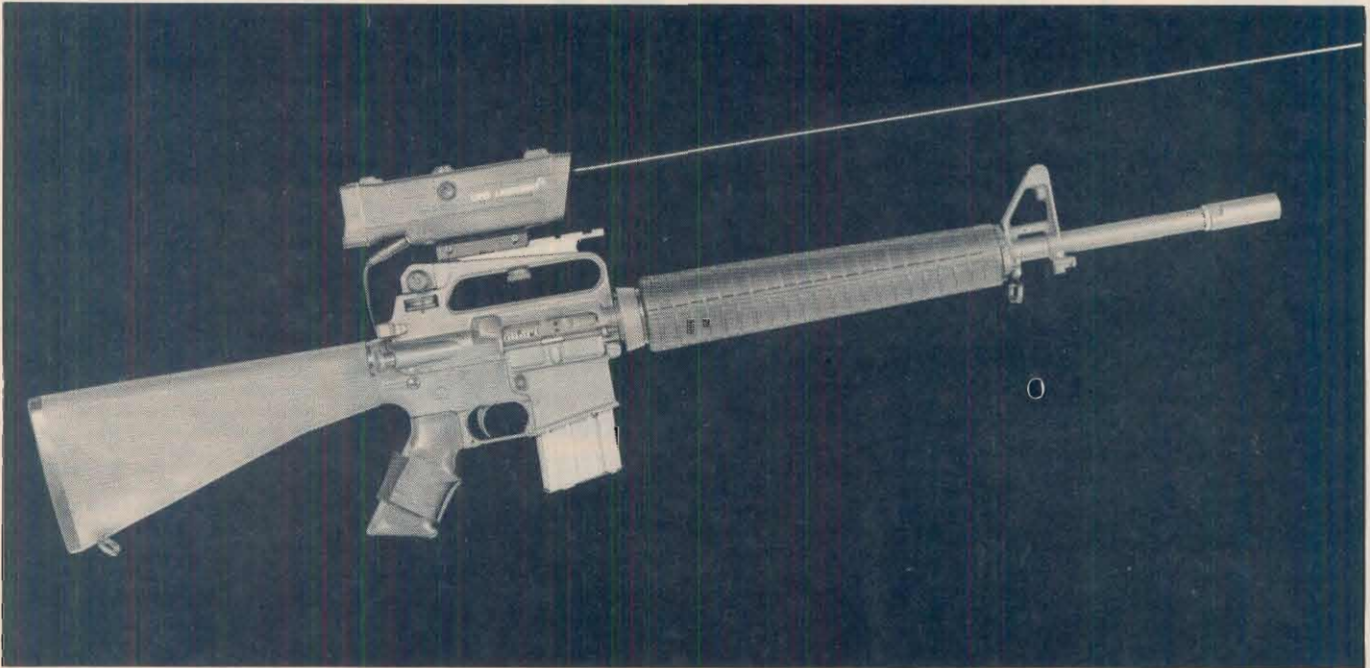
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LS45 Lasersight

Zero the sight, train the red dot on the target for pinpoint accuracy...

Staff Report



The LS45 with its laser beam is shown here mounted on a Colt AR-15 HBAR Sporter. The beam is turned on by squeezing the switch pad attached to the rifle's pistol grip.

LS45 Laser Aiming System offers instantaneous target acquisition from any position. The eye does not have to align with the sights of the weapon used, allowing the shooter to make better use of protective cover.

Once the sight is zeroed so that the bullet, arrow or other projectile hits where the laser beam's red dot is projected, the user simply moves the weapon so that the red dot is on the target and fires. That's all there is to it.

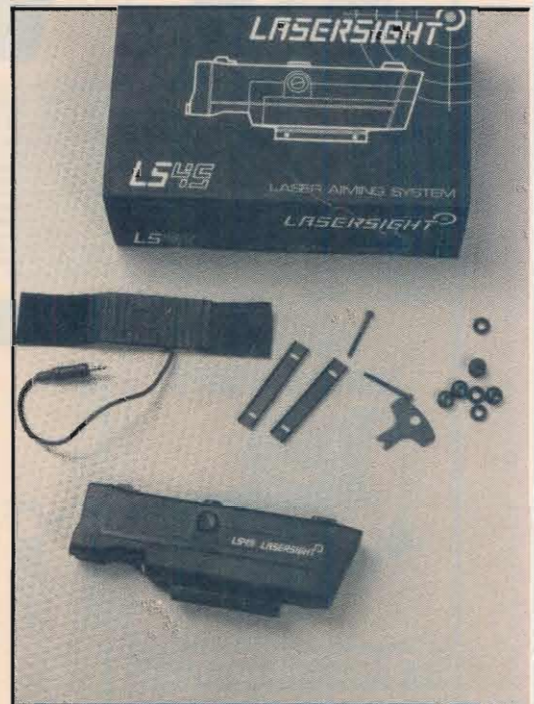
The laser beam and dot is visible in smoke or fog, indoors, at night and in other low light situations. Laser aimed weapons are normally used between dusk and dawn outside, in shaded areas or anytime indoors.

The red dot is four to six inches in diameter at 100 yards and can be seen for several hundred yards, though at long distances a scope is usually needed to locate the dot and train it on the target. The adjustable clamp mount that comes with the LS45 fits all Weaver

and most other types of dovetail bases. Patented side mounts are available for a variety of weapons. These mounts permit the LS45 to be mounted and used alongside a scope.

The LS45 is 7.5 inches long, 1.35 inches wide and 1.9 inches high and weighs 8.5 ounces without the two 9-volt alkaline batteries it uses. It has an He/Ne Lasertube energized at 5 kV, 1.2 kV continuous. The lasertube has a service life of about 10,000 or more hours and the beam can be used continuously for 45 or more minutes with two 9-volt batteries. Maximum range is 500 yards at night. The LS45 has a 12-month warranty.

The LS45 Laser Aiming System fits unobtrusively on many different types of rifles, shotguns, handguns, bows and other weapons. Suggested price is \$459.95 but is available exclusively to ASG readers for \$399.95 from Your Supply Depot, Ltd., Dept. ASG, 39W433 Highland Ave., Elgin, IL 60120; (312) 697-0222. ●



The unit includes on-off switch pad, beam adjusting key and mounting gear.



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Water Barrels

For dependable water storage...

Staff Report

WATER storage is a primary concern for those who want to prepare for times of disaster.

Earthquakes and other natural and manmade disasters can disrupt the public water system, causing your tap to go dry. It would be wise to stock at least a two-week supply of water to carry you over until safe water supplies are available. Calculate your needs based on a one-gallon minimum per person for drinking and washing each day.

Survival Equipment, Ltd. has a new 15-gallon barrel for water storage. Made of heavy duty, high impact plastic, the barrels come complete with standard bung and built-in handles. They stand 26-inches high and are only 14-inches in diameter. This makes them easy to store in apartments and smaller homes where space is limited.

The water storage barrels are made to DOT standards and are available for \$19.50 plus \$3 S&H, or you can buy five barrels for \$110 from SI, Dept. ASG, 18239 S. Figueroa St., Gardena, CA 90248; (213) 324-8855. ●



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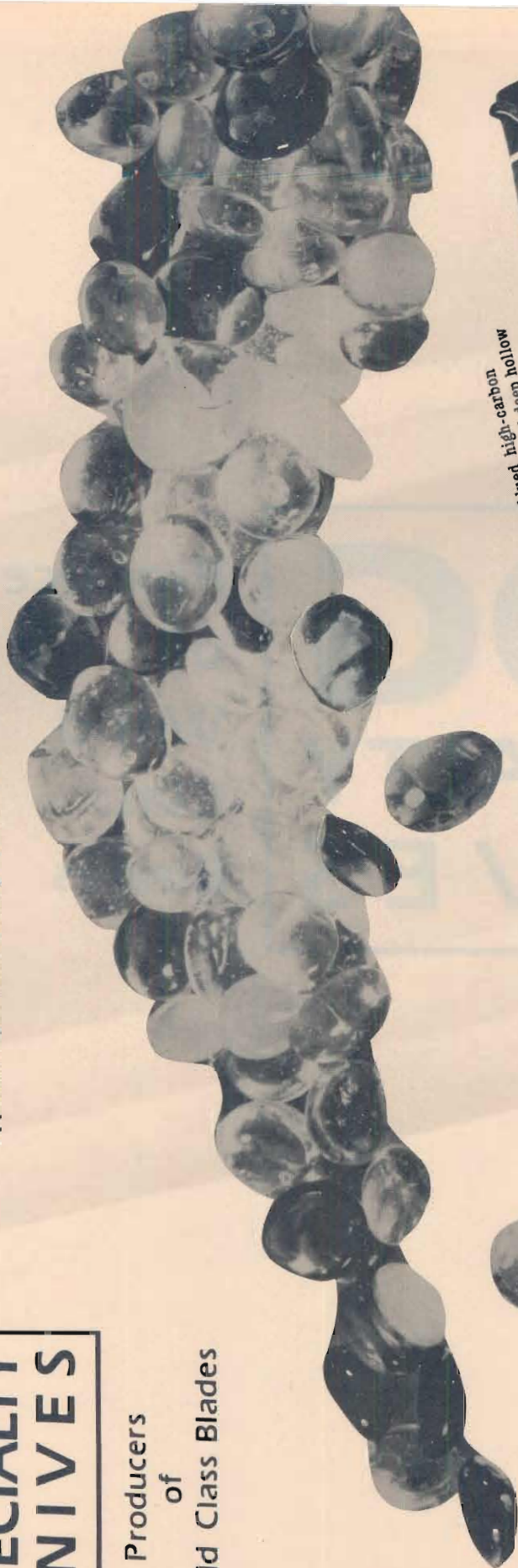


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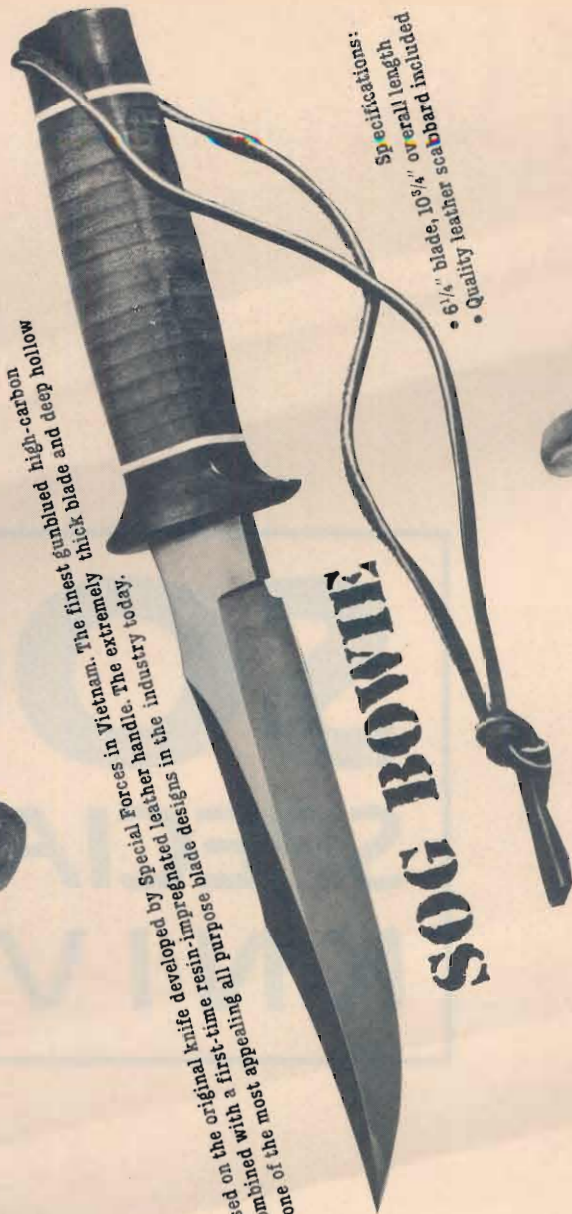
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World Class Blades

SOG SPECIALTY KNIVES is dedicated to creating the highest standards of production cutlery in the world. We use the strongest steels, finest materials and newest manufacturing techniques which are combined with traditional hand craftsmanship to ultimately create the sharpest and most durable edges in the industry.

All of our products utilize the timeless and historically proven bowie design which gives the user maximum capability and performance in virtually every situation. The magical feel of our knives have become a trademark, perfectly balanced and sculpted for fit so that the blade does the work as if on its own. Our products are designed for the professional, sportsman, hunter, militarist, outdoorsman, survivalist and collector... or anyone who can appreciate precision cutlery at its finest!



Our flagship is based on the original knife developed by Special Forces in Vietnam. The finest gunblued high-carbon tooling steel is combined with a first-time resin-impregnated leather handle. The extremely thick blade and deep hollow grind make this one of the most appealing all purpose blade designs in the industry today.



SOG BOWIE

- Specifications:
- 6 1/4" blade, 10 3/4" overall length
 - Quality leather scabbard included

In response to an ever increasing demand for the higher...
Built entirely from stainless steel, this bowie blade...
This is the first time that a laser-cut stacked...
the knife completely waterproof.

...sity cutlery, the Trident stands alone.
 ...a washer handle has ever been used, rendering



Specifications:

- 6 1/4" blade, 10 3/4" overall length
- Cordura scabbard suitable to a variety of mountings

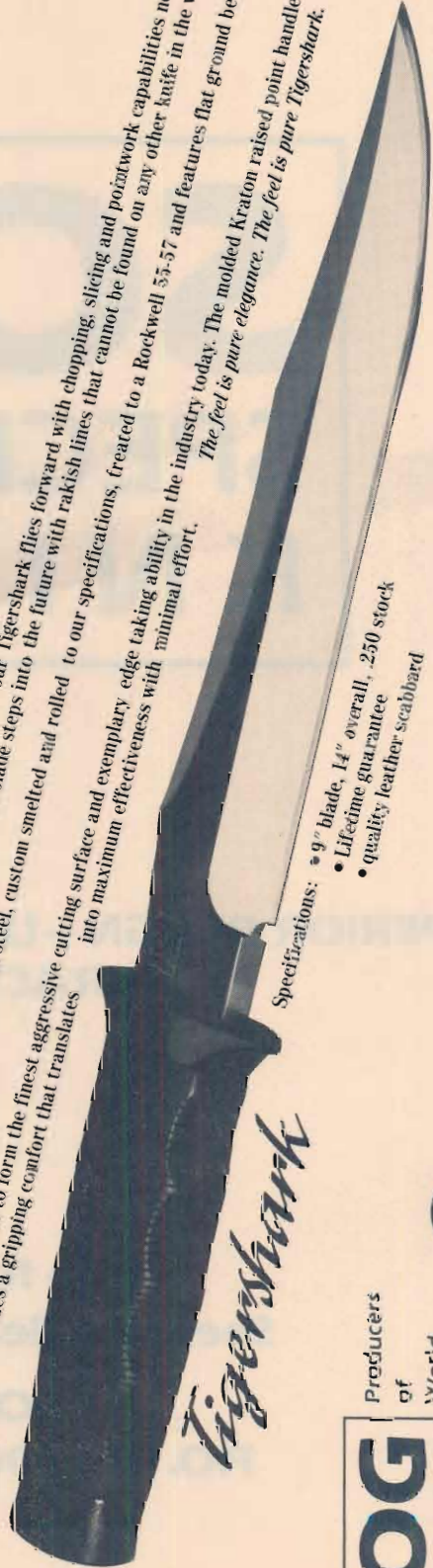
The state of the art in folding knives. Now you can have that bowie design you always wanted in a folder, giving optimum performance and full range capability in virtually every situation. This futuristic blade shape will cut like a much larger knife and yet will fold to a small, sleek package for ease in carrying. The all high-carbon stainless steel construction rather than spring pressure to positively lock the blade in the open position for the ultimate in safety. This all adds up to one of the most unique knives to ever be produced! From the open range to close quarters, the Tomcat will travel anywhere and everywhere.



- Specifications:
- 3 3/4" x .180" blade, 8 1/4" overall
 - Kraton raised point positive grips
 - Dual mounting nylon scabbard

For those of you who want the absolute full range capability that the big blade offers... our Tigershark flies forward with chopping, slicing and pointwork capabilities never previously integrated into one knife. Utilizing the historically proven bowie design, this blade steps into the future with rakish lines that cannot be found on any other knife in the world!

This 9" bowie is manufactured from the finest high carbon steel, custom smelted and rolled to our specifications, treated to a Rockwell 55-57 and features flat ground bevels, our faceted reinforced tip and a new special rolled edge. These characteristics combine to form the finest aggressive cutting surface and exemplary edge taking ability in the industry today. The molded Kraton raised point handle encapsulates the tang and provides a gripping comfort that translates into maximum effectiveness with minimal effort.



- Specifications:
- 9" blade, 14" overall, .250 stock
 - Lifetime guarantee
 - Quality leather scabbard

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Outdoor Knives:

Game Skinner

A push knife, an ulu and gut-hooked skinner in one...

Photo by Jerry McElroy



The Game Skinner combines the attributes of the push knife, the ulu, and the gut-hooked skinner. Besides its obvious usefulness for big game, the hook can be used to skin pheasant and clean fish as well.

THE Game Skinner is a whole new idea in knives from Outdoor Edge Cutlery Corporation, made specifically for the hunter and outdoorsman.

The advantageous design of the new Game Skinner was conceived by metallurgist David Bloch as the result of his renewed boyhood interest in bow hunting. "Each year it seemed the new production hunting knives maintained traditional patterns and style," said Mr. Bloch, "I proposed something different."

Due to this skinner's unique shape, a straight relaxed wrist can be used to guide it, making cutting easier and more natural, and increasing control and strength.

The gut hook is another key feature. To slice through big game hide, all one

has to do is cut forward with the front edge until the hook drops below the skin, then pull back.

Since the blade extends through the hand, the knife can be secured between the fingers when the hand is open. This feature allows use of both hands to grasp and pull without having to return the knife to the sheath.

Although this is a great tool for the big game hunter, it has very good small game applications as well. Cutting power is transferred directly through the arm to the front edge, further increasing forward cutting force. Clipping through small bones and wings are a snap. This eliminates the need to cut, pry and twist when dressing small game.

Overall length is 5½ inches with a 3 1/8-inch 8-A stainless steel blade

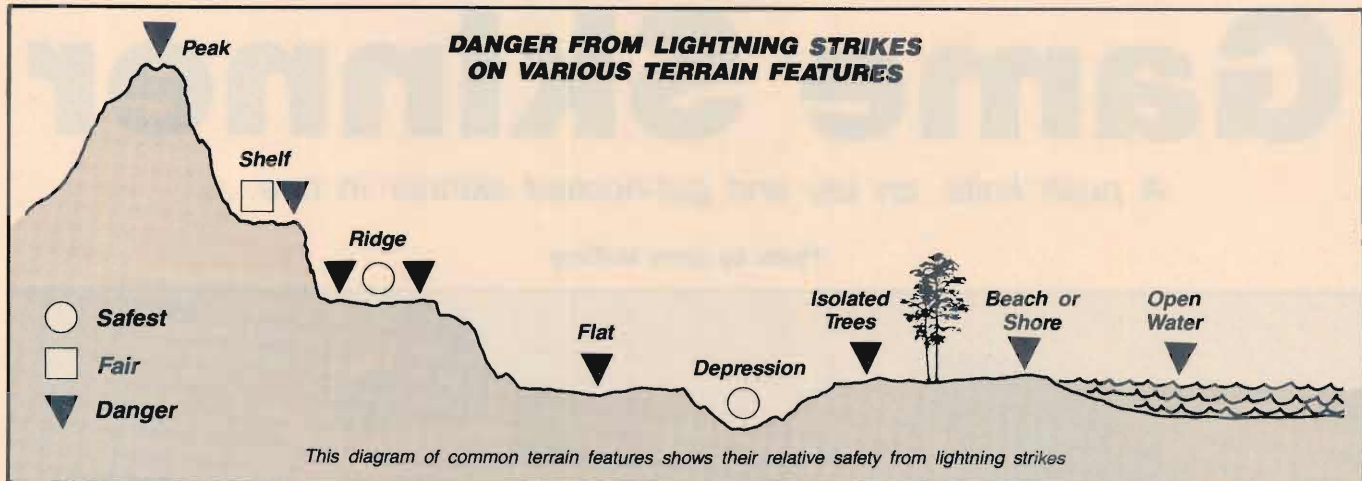
hardened to a Rockwell of 58-59. Each knife is guaranteed to shave hair right out of the box. The handle is made of Krayton rubber with diamond checker pattern on the sides and a rough leather-like pattern around the perimeter and finger notches.

Two styles of leather sheaths are available: an exposed handle-style with a quick snap release or a holster-style with snap flap. Suggested retail price is \$56.95 for the former and \$67.95 for the latter (including a ceramic sharpening rod).

For more information contact: Outdoor Edge Cutlery Corp., Dept. ASG 2888 Bluff St., Suite 130, Boulder, CO 80301; (303) 444-0937

Bolts

(Continued from page 21)



close by. The second conductor will draw charge from the main lightning strike and, in effect, create a second "circuit" which while not as powerful as the main charge, is none the less more than powerful enough to cause injury or death to an individual.

Statistically, the single largest category of lightning deaths is made up of those who seek shelter under trees during a thunderstorm. Large isolated trees act as lightning rods, attracting lightning strikes. The side flash effect can cause injury in a large area around the struck tree. **DO NOT USE LARGE TREES AS SHELTER.** It is far better to be wet and alive than dry and fried.

Protection Steps — 1) If possible seek shelter indoors, or in a **CLOSED** car. A car (without a flat) provides a safe insulating compartment **ONLY** if all the windows are tightly closed. Sit in the middle of the car seat, not touching any metal.

2) Seek the **LOWEST** terrain available — even if it is just a small depression in the ground. Once there you are safer if you assume a squatting position with your feet together, head down, and hands not touching the ground.

3) Avoid taking shelter under isolated trees, near metal fences, power lines, or other electrically conductive objects.

4) Get as far as possible from open bodies of water. If swimming get to land away from shore.

5) If you are riding on a bicycle, tractor, golf cart, motorcycle or moped, or any other open type vehicle (including a convertible automobile), park it and seek shelter **AWAY** from it. The farther the better.

6) If you are in a group, spread out.

It is possible for a close-by lightning stroke, through side flash, to injure everyone on a gathered group.

7) Avoid seeking shelter on exposed mountain or hill tops, ridgelines, or open ledges.

8) Get rid of any metal objects you are carrying. Backpack frames, tent poles, tennis racquets, golf clubs, etc.

9) Do not seek shelter in isolated and exposed metal sheds, you are safer outside.

10) Do not seek shelter in areas that you know have previously been hit by lightning. Contrary to the old adage lightning does strike twice (or more) in the same place.

11) If you feel a tingling sensation on your skin, or if your hair stands on end, hit the ground **QUICKLY**. There is a good chance that lightning may be about to strike you or your vicinity.

Lightning can and does cause injuries indoors. An average home provides a number of pathways by which lightning may enter. Power lines, telephone lines, chimneys, water pipes, CB and TV antennas, etc., all provide convenient pathways into a home for lightning.

The safest place to be inside a house during an electrical storm is in the center of the home. Make sure all doors and windows are closed, as this helps prevent side flash injuries. If you have warning of an impending electrical storm, unplug as many appliances as possible. Never attempt to disconnect any electrical appliances from the house wiring **DURING** the storm.

Do not take baths, showers, do dishes or engage in any other activities in which you will come into contact with the waterpipe system in the home during the storm. Waterpipes are grounded directly to earth, and serve as excel-

lent conductors for lightning strikes.

Stay **OFF** the telephone during an electrical storm. Statistically, at least one person dies in the U.S. each year while using the phone during a storm. Many more are injured. While telephone companies across the U.S. have attempted to install equipment to minimize the potential for injuries from lightning strikes, there is no way to completely eliminate the danger. The safest bet is to stay off the phone during a storm.

Protecting A Home — What are the chances of your home being hit by lightning? Surveys show that for an average home situated in a region of moderate thunderstorm activity, that home will be hit by lightning once every 100 years. This statistic sounds reassuring until it is looked at from a different angle. For every 100 homes located in a moderate thunderstorm activity region, 1 will be hit each year. For every 1,000 homes, 10 will be hit. For every 100,000 homes, 1,000 will be hit, etc.

To minimize the potential damages from lightning strikes to a home the homeowner should consider the installation of a lightning rod and surge arrester system.

The lightning rod system will serve to channel a lightning strike to ground before it has a chance to hit the house. The cost of lightning rod systems depend on the building's size and height, and on the electrical and plumbing layout of the structure. Typical costs range from \$500 to \$1,000.

Surge arrestors prevent lightning from damaging equipment and entering a home through electrical or telephone lines. They are designed to ground

(Continued on page 47)

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#A007.....\$49.95

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#A008.....\$59.95

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This is one of our most popular models. It features a unique curved handgrip. This design protects you from being attacked from behind. It has a full 50,000 volts of power. The state-of-the-art micro-chip technology assures you against activator switch burn out and loss of voltage. The "Defender" is powered by a normal 9-volt alkaline battery or a rechargeable 9-volt. Comes with a handling strap. The "Defender" measures 6.5 x 2 x 3/4 inches.

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WHERE CAN I KEEP IT? Clips to a belt; Fits in a purse; Keep one in your car; One in your house; Carry in a holster.

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A full 50,000 volts of stopping power. The Stun Baton is 18 inches long and comes with a wrist safety strap. The hand grip is rubberized for easy control and the entire shaft is electrified to prevent it being taken away from you. Made from space-age plastic. Powered by a single 9-volt battery.

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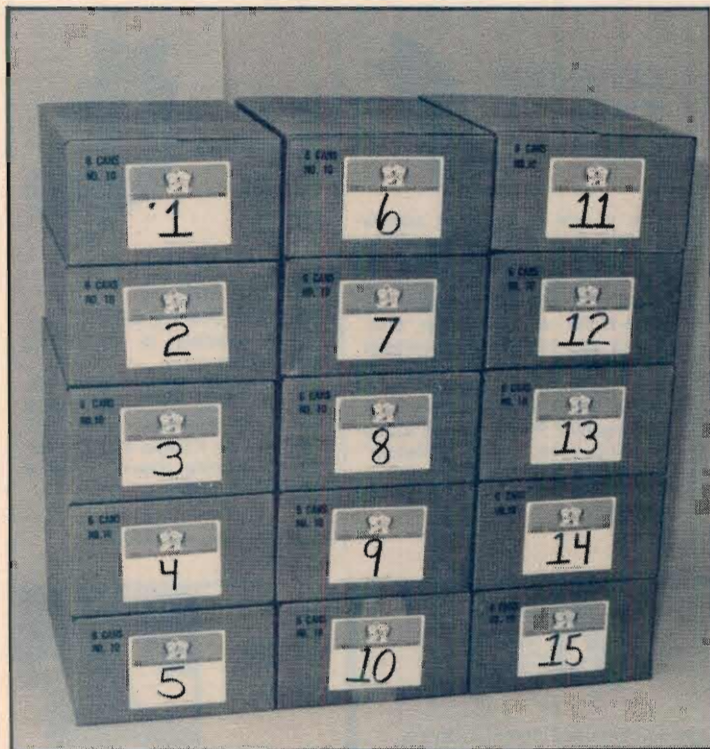
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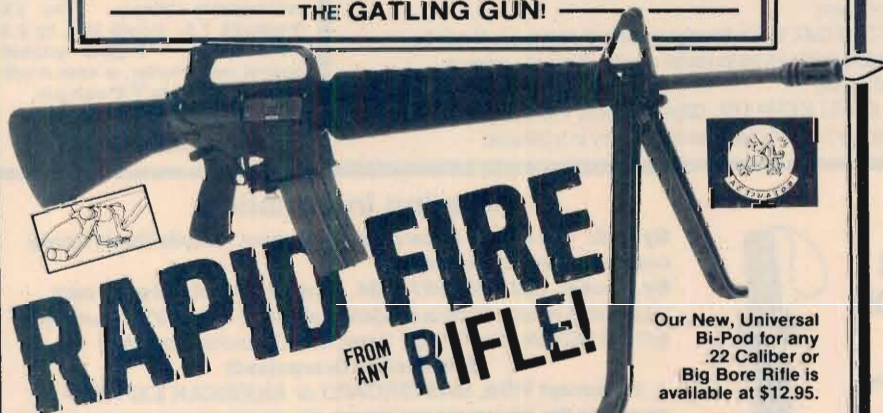
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The Economy Pak has a retail value of \$715 plus shipping. Contact NITRO-PAK Storage Foods & Emergency Supplies, Dept. ASG, 11018 E. Rosecrans Ave., Suite 300, Norwalk, CA 90650; (213) 929-4705. Catalog available for \$2. •

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Bolts

(Continued from page 44)



Lightning most often strikes the tallest object in the area (Lightning Protection Institute).

the lightning induced electrical surge before it gets to the home electrical wiring and any appliances which might be plugged in. Surge arrestors can be installed separately or as part of a lightning rod system. They should also be installed between any outdoor antennas, (TV, CB, satellite), and the equipment which the antennas serve. Such installation can prevent costly damage to high priced electronic equipment. Surge arrestors cost in the area of \$100 each.

Surprisingly, most lightning strikes on people are not fatal. A phenomenon known as "flashover" tends to channel the electric surge along and around the outside of the body, preventing vital organs from being damaged. The severity of injury in this type of lightning strike can vary. Victims may suffer a temporary muscle paralysis, unconsciousness, and or shock.

Primary treatment for this type victim is to treat for shock. Keep the victim lying down, elevate the legs 12 to 18 inches, keep the victim warm, reassure the victim, do not give anything to eat or drink, keep alert for cardiac or respiratory failure, send someone for medical assistance.

Should the victim have suffered a severe lightning hit and have lapsed into cardiac and or respiratory arrest, cardio-pulmonary resuscitation, CPR, must be started immediately.

Often a lightning victim will die, not because the lightning strike has damaged any internal organs, but because

the strike has disrupted the normal functioning of the respiratory muscles. In this case heart failure results not from lightning damage to the heart, but simply from lack of oxygen to the heart. the quick application of properly done CPR techniques can save the life of such a victim.

CPR courses are readily available and should be taken by the survivalist and non-survivalist alike. Contact your local Red Cross chapter or the American Heart Association for information on CPR courses.

Calm Action — Lightning is among the most studied of all natural phenomena. The U.S. National Weather Service and other agencies have begun to set up a nationwide series of lightning tracking and detection centers. Their goal is to be able to predict when and where severe lightning conditions are likely to occur. In many areas lightning forecasts have already become a normal part of TV and radio weather broadcasts.

Whether or not science eventually is able to predict lightning activity, lightning itself will always present a beautiful but deadly threat to the individual.

While the techniques in this article cannot guarantee absolute safety, they can lower the chances of your becoming a lightning victim. In a lightning storm as in most survival situations, knowledge, common sense, and calm action can save your life. ●

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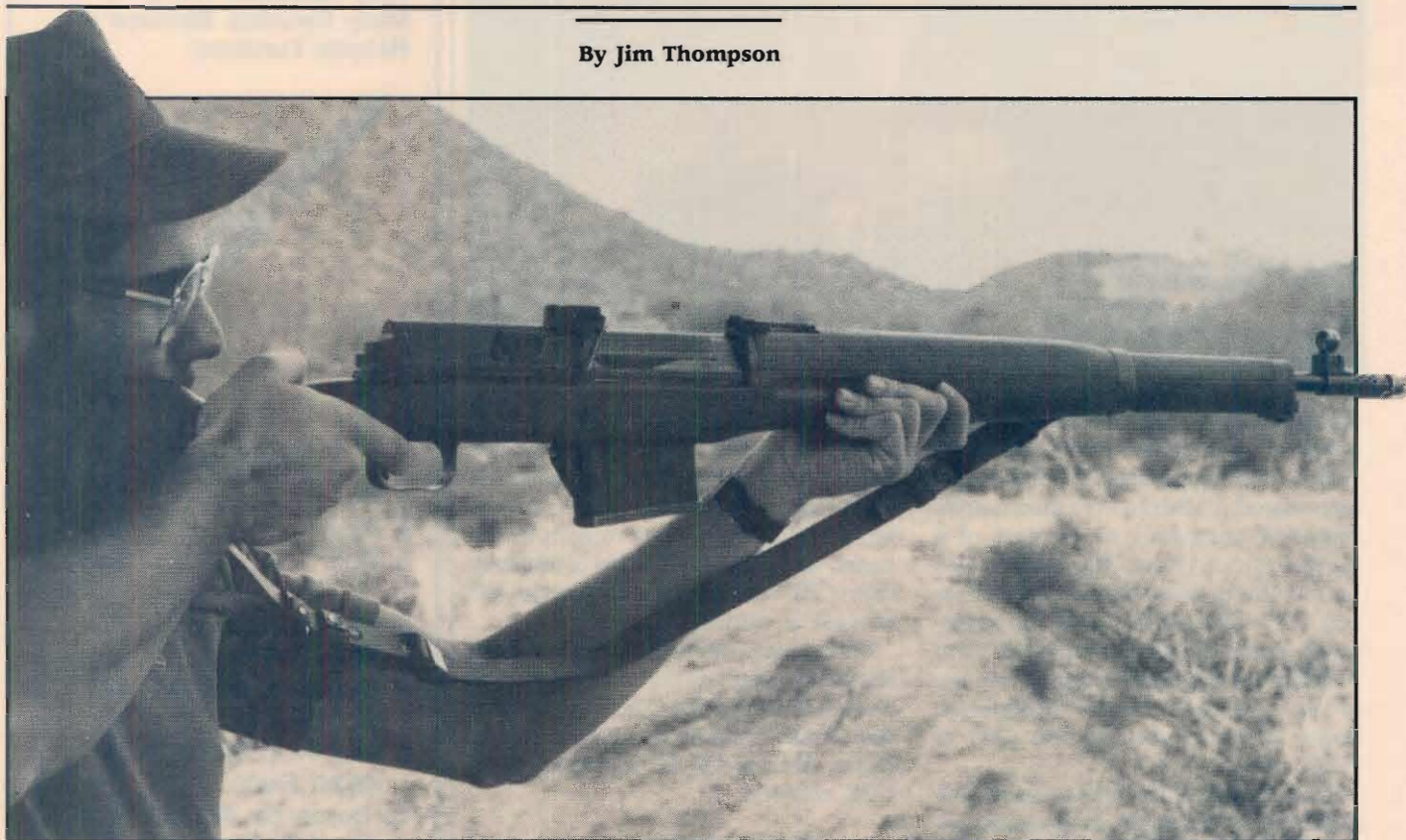
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Used Military Weapons:

Surplus Update

Good quality firearms, ammunition and parts are now more available than ever before. . .

By Jim Thompson



The Egyptian Hakim in 8mm Mauser is an accurate, if slightly finicky, military rifle of robust construction with a 10-round magazine capacity.

MILITARY weapons, used ones in particular, have been my "beat" since I was a kid. This is partly historical sense, nostalgia if you prefer, but there's a lot of practicality there, too. Most of these military weapons will be around long after the men who used them are dead.

Back in 1968, it appeared the supply of surplus weapons would disappear. Importation of military weapons was outlawed. This, of course, was going to magically reduce crime and disrupt icky old terrorism. I'm sure you've noticed there is no more crime or terrorism around. Truth is, of course, the law had no effect on either, and was never really intended to; it was just a sort of generalized, incompetent suppressive measure, without focus.

Most of this prohibition has been reversed or neutralized. And some decent firearms are coming in; even more important, old contacts have been rekindled, and ammunition and parts for many are now more available than ever before, and at very low prices.

This article is a quick summary of some recent arrivals on these shores, mostly discussed in the photos accompanying. With the cooperation of Andre Blouin of Century Arms, PO Box 714, St. Albans, VT 05478, I tested, researched, and compiled data on about 75 firearms currently available on the U.S. market.

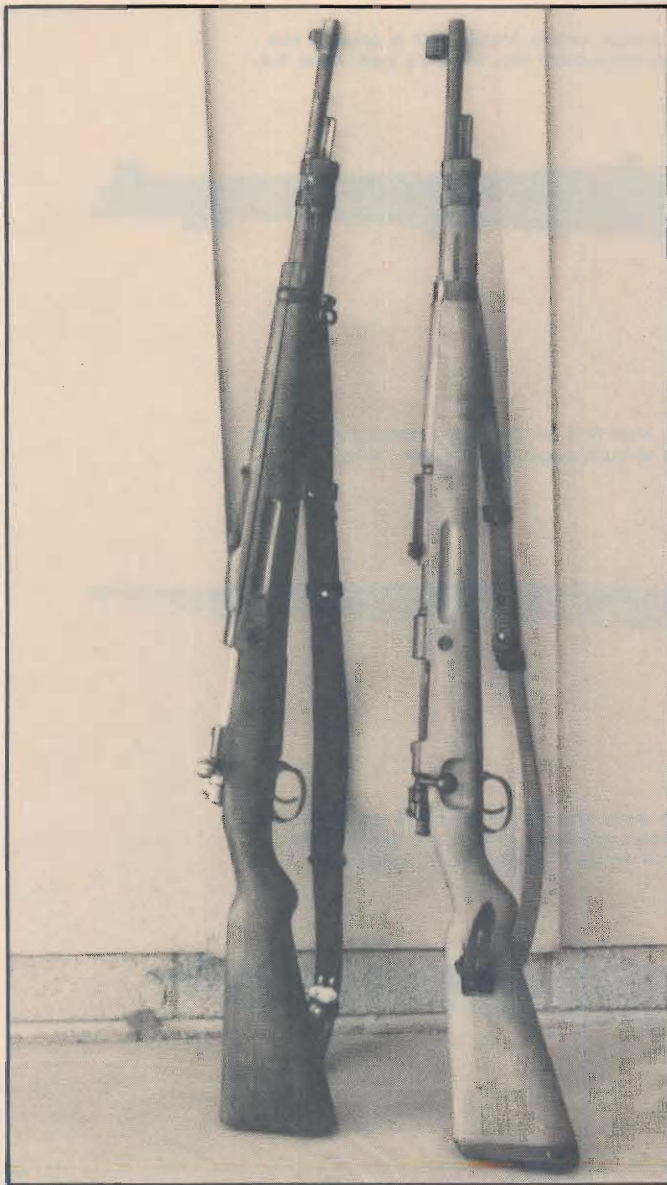
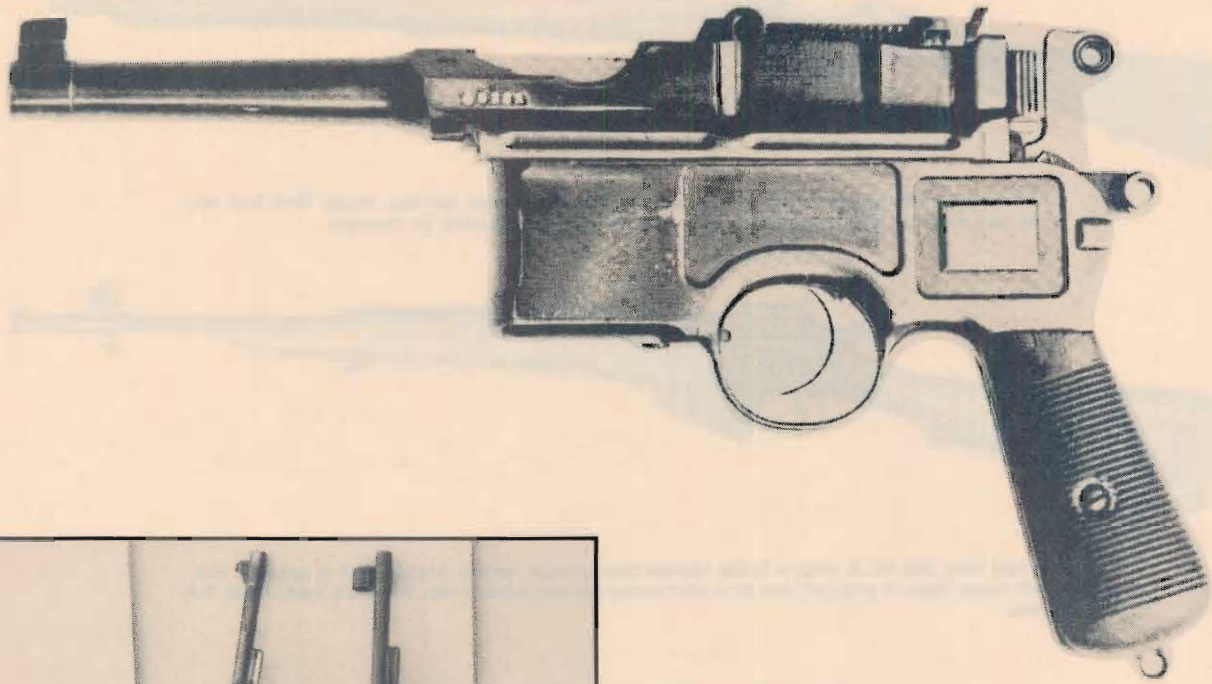
Some special notes are necessary on condition. If you mean to use the weapon a lot "as is," buy the best condition you can get. That's always cheaper than replacing, let's say, a barrel. If you're

going to build a custom rifle on a Mauser action, of which there are now thousands available, you may and probably will throw away much of what you buy, so you may wish to go to the opposite extreme, since Mauser parts, always cheap, are more available than before.

Also, a lot of these weapons have considerable collector's potential. It is unwise to perform any major or permanent modifications on these. In this regard, some excellent new products, like B-Square's new scope mount family, allow scopes to be mounted on rifles and removed without much more fuss than changing trousers. This has always been the case with custom trigger assemblies for bolt action rifles. On pistols, especially those like the Inglis-Canada built

(Continued on page 51)

Purchasers of "Bolo" Mausers are usually seeking sound investments or curios, though these pistols are very accurate. A couple of firms are selling excellent Mauser pistol restorations.



One of the great advantages of the M98 Mausers is the vast parts pool and low prices on parts, and most of the "large ring" parts are directly interchangeable, regardless of country of origin.

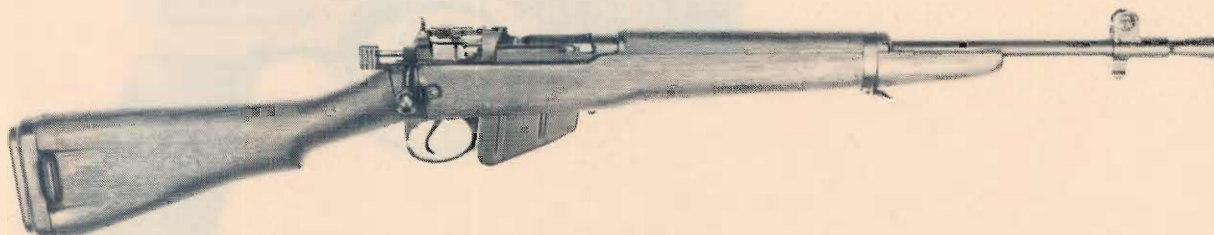


Wartime P38s and Luger Pistols are interesting, credible self-defense options, though the Luger requires quality ammunition.

Surplus Update



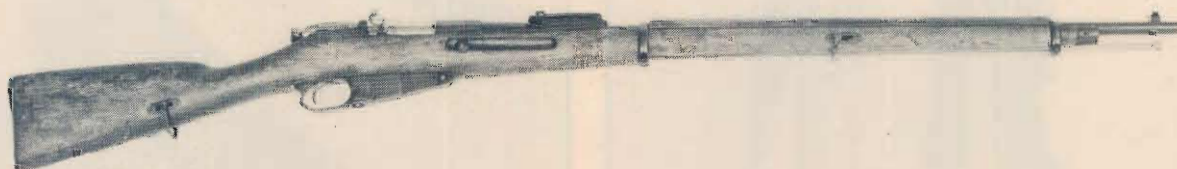
The Austrian M95 Mannlicher rifle is chambered for the 8x56R mm cartridge. Mostly Steyr built with the best materials, these straight-pull rifles have an excellent reputation for accuracy.



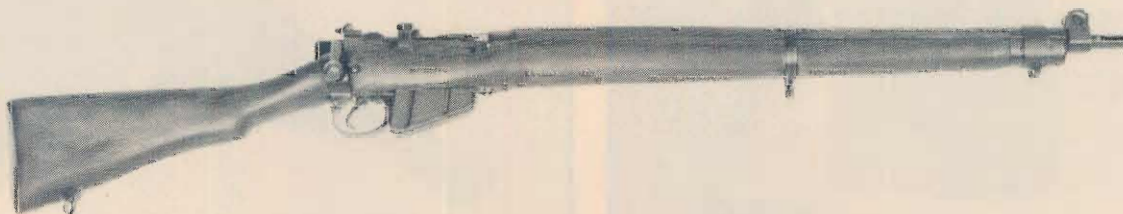
Enfield Rifle .308 No. 5, Mark 1 is the vaunted British jungle carbine. Muzzle blast is dazzling, kick with heavy loads is profound, but as a short-to-medium range brush rifle, this one's ready made first class.



The S.M.L.E. (Short Magazine, Lee Enfield) Rifle No. 1, Mark III is not one of the most accurate British service rifles, but has a very slick bolt mechanism and 10-round magazine and is very sturdy.



The Russian/Belgian designed Mosin-Nagant rifles were made from 1891 to as late as the 1960s. Made in the U.S. by Westinghouse and Remington, and in France and Switzerland as well as the Soviet Union and China, these rifles, in barrel lengths from 31 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches to as short as 20 inches, have a first class reputation for accuracy and reliability.



The Enfield Magazine Rifle No. 4, Mark 1 was the most accurate of the venerable Enfield series. Still used in English service, converted to 7.62x51mm NATO, as a sniper rifle, this weapon is strong and fast to shoot with a 10-round magazine.

(Continued from page 48)



Many pre-war Browning P38 Hi-Powers have entered the country. The pistol at top here is customized.

Hi-Powers from China, there's no harm in changing the barrel, provided the original is retained for some possible collector in the future.

Try to get as much accurate data as you can, both on the model you're considering and the specific piece. Key word here is *accurate*. I've recently seen tests run on some weapons using 30-year-old ammo exclusively conclude that rifles I know are accurate can't shoot straight. And a few years ago there were all sorts of "experts" ready to tell you that Type 38 and 99 Japanese rifle actions were weak and unsafe. Truth is, they're perhaps the strongest and safest ever made.

One "expert" who had messed up the extractor on his FN 49 with his incompetent handling, and had inadvertently partially closed the gas valve, condemned the rifle as "unreliable," which is okay, because despite his error, a friend of mine purchased his "piece of junk" for \$30 and after 10 minutes and \$2 worth of parts, had a superbly accurate, splendidly reliable rifle.

The quality of surplus ammo is higher than ever. I've been shooting FN (Belgian) .30/06, Kynoch .30/06, Yugoslavian .308 and 8mm., and some Canadian 9mm., all with results better than most commercial stuff. These all seem to be noncorrosive. I've also been shooting Chinese and Yugoslavian 7.62x54R, which I treat as if it's corrosive, though I'm told the Yugoslavian ammo is not. I use World War II G.I. bore cleaner most of the time anyway, therefore treating *all* ammo as if it were corrosive. The Yugoslav 180-grain hollow points I've been shooting are very accurate and powerful, and seem to be new brass and bullets, not reloaded military hulls. Most of this ammo was acquired from Century Arms, though your local dealer may soon stock a lot of it.

Surplus arms and ammo are comparative bargains. There are no 6½ pound sporters coming in, except for a few noted conversions, but they're all solid weapons, in sufficient condition and complete. ●

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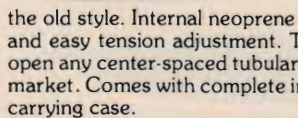
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Trail Master Bowie

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made of high-tech materials...*

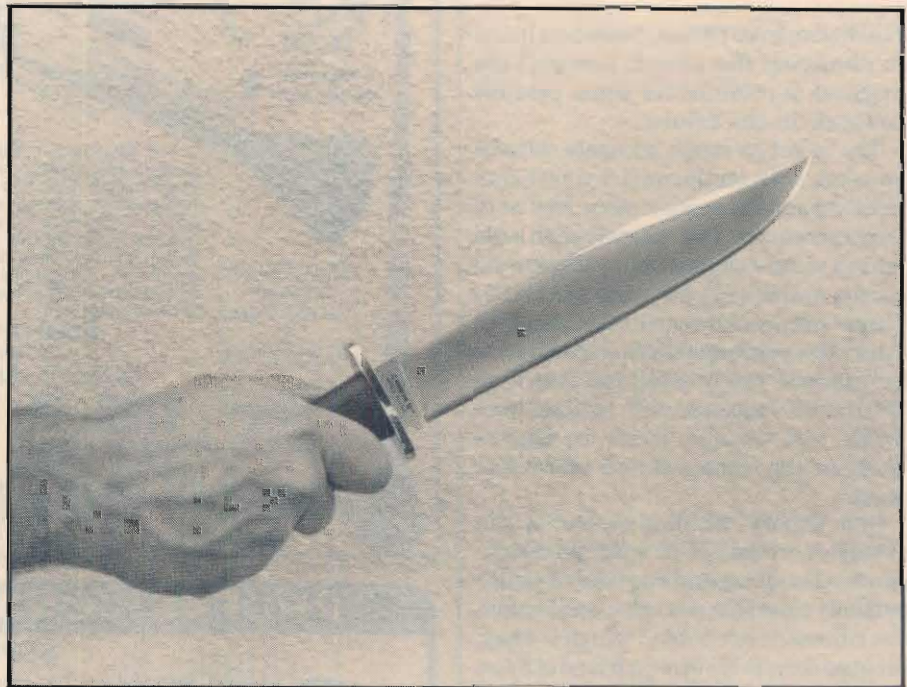
Staff Report

MOST people don't fight crocodiles very often, and neither do they protect their leading ladies from New York muggings by demonstrating the impressive blade of a Bowie. However, many Americans and other people have recognized the value and importance of a big knife.

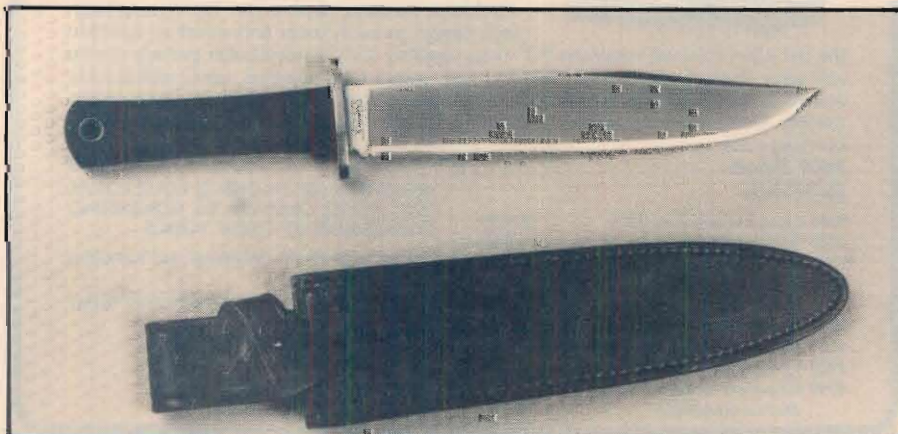
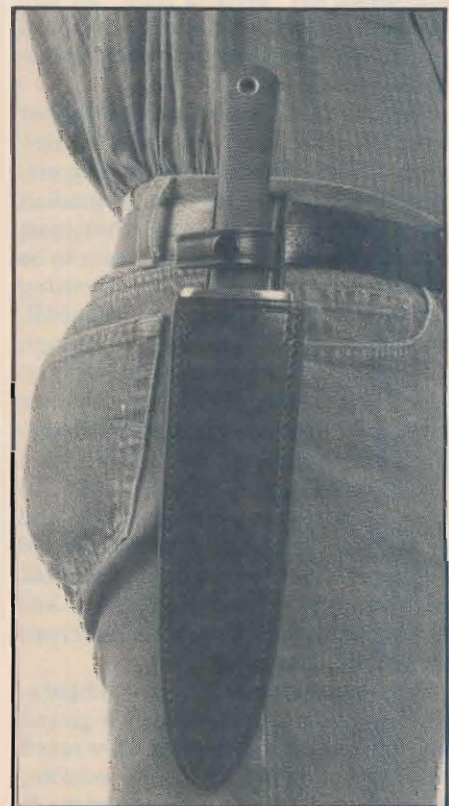
Pioneers, adventurers, and frontiersmen were the first to enjoy the fit and feel of a Bowie knife in hand. It's balance, size, and versatility were highly praised by outdoorsmen of that time. Today, Lynn C. Thompson has designed a new Bowie for the 1980s. The Trail Master Bowie from Cold Steel Inc.

The Trail Master is made entirely in America from specially smelted and rolled steel, patented as "Carbon V." The 9½-inch clip point blade is flat ground from 5/16-inch stock and sports a beautiful satin finish. Great care has been taken in heat treating and tempering to assure the utmost strength, sharpness and edge retention. With an overall length of 14 inches, the Trail Master weighs only 18 ounces and is delicately balanced at approximately one inch in front of the guard.

The handle has a very sure grip made from Pachmayr-type Kraton rubber and has a double guard of polished brass. Each knife comes with an ambidextrous, rugged black leather sheath. This knife is destined to become a new



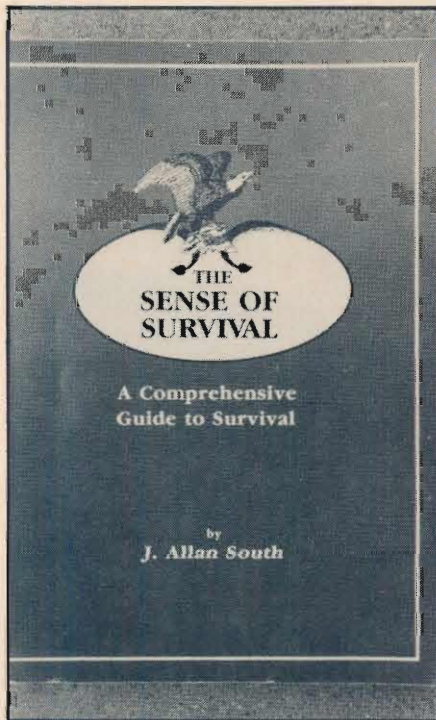
American classic, the fit and finish speak of quality and endurance. A Trail Master is one of the prizes in our 1988 Giveaway No. 2 (page 64), suggested retail value of \$175. For more information about this fine knife, contact Cold Steel Inc., Dept. ASG 2128 Knoll Drive, Unit D, Ventura, CA 93003; (800) 624-2363 inside California or (800) 255-4716 outside CA. ●



BOOKS/VIDEOS

(Continued from page 14)

tures. There are also some fascinating articles on historic guns: "Military shotguns of WW2" and "Guns and Pistols of Kurdistan." The handloading comparisons and tests on new firearms provide a wealth of information. *Gun Digest* has got to be one of the best reference books on guns you can find.



The Sense of Survival, A Comprehensive Guide to Survival, by J. Allan South; NITROPAK Storage Foods and Emergency Supplies, Dept. ASG, 11018 E. Rosecrans Ave., Suite 300, Norwalk, CA 90650; (213) 929-4705; 336 pages, softcover; \$11.95 plus \$2 S&H.

A comprehensive reference book on survival. The book contains lots of useful information and is well illustrated. The first section deals with "the likely possibilities" and discusses all natural disasters and then goes on to cover biological and chemical warfare. Next is an extensive chapter on nuclear war and how to protect yourself against radiation. Section two is a thorough guide on "the necessities of life" and includes topics such as: emergency kits, nutrition, storage, water, shelter, using plants and animals, weapons, sanitation, etc. These are things you made need to know, be you an attorney, homemaker, or bricklayer. A great how-to-guide for survivalists. ●

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M-900 Pistol, Carbine

9mm NATO, 50- and 100-round firearms for self-defense, military, law enforcement uses. . .

By Jim Benson



The M-900 Carbine being fired with stock extended. Cartridge cases are ejected downward from the ejection port in front of the trigger guard.

THE M-900 9mm NATO caliber Carbine and Pistol are lightweight, low profile, high capacity firearms intended for police and military applications and for self defense.

Perhaps the most striking feature of these unique new weapons, expected to be available for sale to the public later this year, is their 50- and 100-round helical-feed magazines.

We have never seen such large capacity 9mm firearms before. The cylindrical helical-feed magazines can be loaded and reloaded in seconds with the speed loading tool developed for these guns.

Because of the double-stacked, spring-operated helical feed system used, the magazines can accommodate the large number of rounds and be transported and stored fully loaded without spring

fatigue. A push of the button at the rear of the magazine releases the spring tension on them and the rounds will not feed into the firearm until a small handle is extended next to the spring tension button and cranked until it stops. The spring tension of the magazine is then sufficient to feed rounds into the weapon chamber for firing.

Since the magazines are situated horizontally along the axis of the firearm, the M-900 weapons can be fired by shooters lying close to the ground and creating a very low profile.

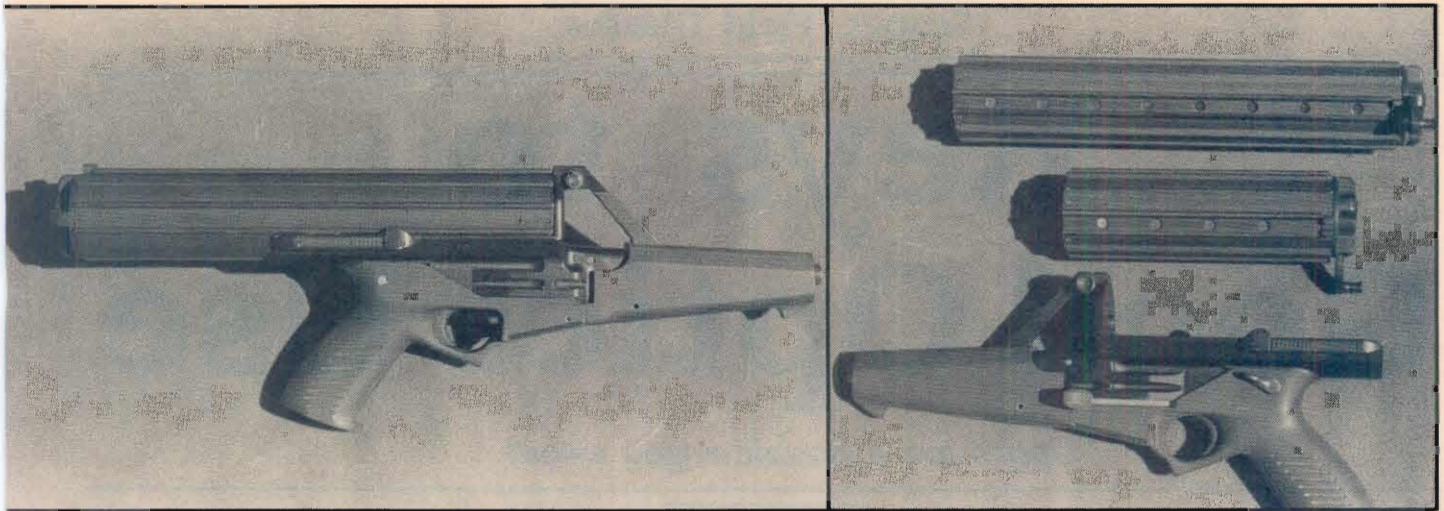
The M-900 guns use a delayed or retarded blowback method of firing of the CETME type and fire with a closed bolt and static cocking handle, reducing the likelihood of jamming. Empty cartridge cases are ejected downward

from the ejection port in front of the trigger guard, eliminating the danger of cases striking persons next to the weapon as it is being fired.

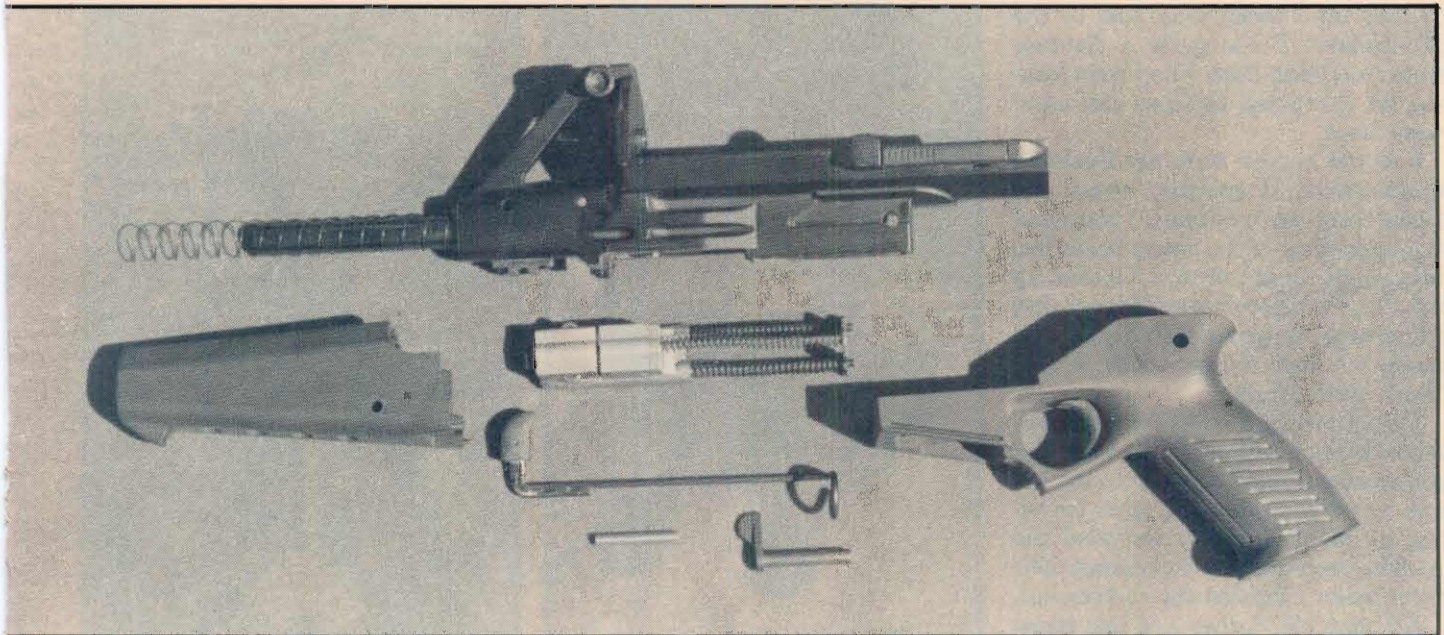
The M-900 pistol and carbine, designed by California Instrument Company (CALICO) in Bakersfield, California, field strip in seconds without tools and reassemble just as quickly.

These guns are of similar design and appearance to the CALICO-American Industries M-100 semiautomatic .22 Long Rifle caliber Pistol and Carbine introduced in 1986 and reviewed by this magazine in the June issue last year. The M-900 guns have black oxide finished barrels and actions except for the 440 heat treated stainless steel bolts. The pistol barrel is six inches long and the carbine has a 16-inch bar-

(Continued on page 78)



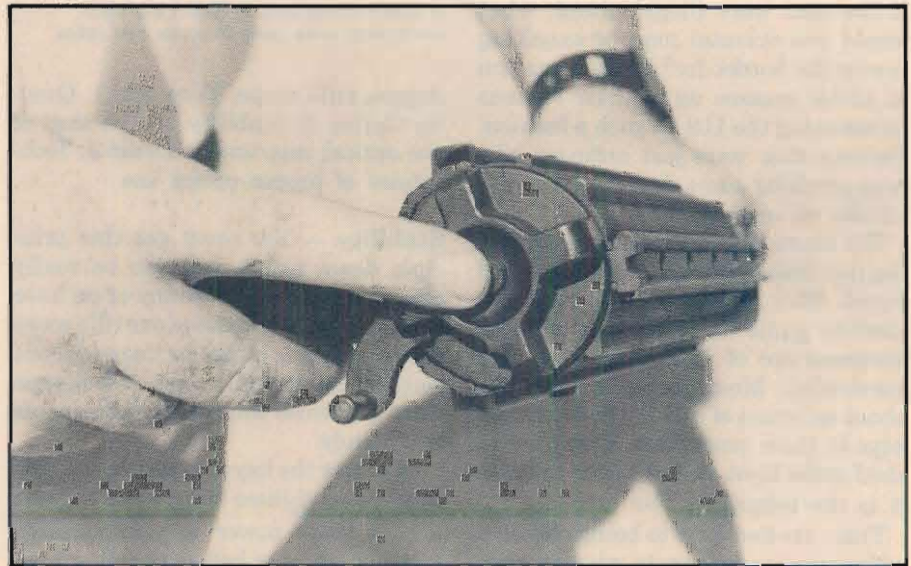
The M-900 Pistol with 100-round magazine attached and with detached 100- and 50-round magazines.



Field stripping is done in seconds without tools.



A cutaway view of the helical feed, double stacked magazine design.



Depressing a button at the rear of the magazine releases spring tension for storage and transport.

Keys to Good Optics Use

Optics are a double-edged sword...

By Lenny Hoover

I was on a rocky crag, just in the shadows. I was quite a distance from the desert floor. I had been looking for sheep and my eyes and mind were tired.

I moved my eye from my Bushnell Spacemaster II spotting scope and looked from the mountain I was viewing to the floor of the desert below me. Movement caught my eye. I picked up my 10 by 50 binoculars and leaned into the mountain to gain stability. I could make out four figures under a Palo Verde tree's shade.

I was hunting 3 miles from the border of Mexico. I figured they were illegal aliens taking a break from the hot sun or perhaps sleeping after traveling at night. I slowly swiveled the spotting scope and could make out their faces when I focused the instrument.

All wore old clothes and had straw hats on. Two of the men were Mexicans and two looked to be oriental. If the men were illegal aliens, what would two oriental men be sneaking across the border for? I will leave you to make guesses as to their reasons for entering the U.S. in such a fashion. Perhaps they were just ordinary citizens catching some desert sun in the middle of nowhere.

The above example bears witness to the fact that optics are a double-edged sword. They can be used to spot and identify game or men. Both of these purposes are of vital interest to the survivalist. Most people know little about selection of quality optics or the keys to their proper use. I will try to shed some light on the latter topic as it is the subject of this article.

There are four keys to being effective with optical instruments, whether they are spotting scopes, some form of binocular, monocular or to a lesser



A wide carrying strap is helpful and more comfortable when using binocular field optics.



Here is one way to keep both a spotting scope and binoculars stable.

degree, rifle scope. They are: 1. Quality Optics. 2. Stability. 3. The skill of the optical instrument's user. 4. Techniques of proper optics use.

Stability — You must get this principle down before you can be really effective with optics. Many of us have watched the crosshairs of our rifle scope dance across a target or deer without settling on the kill zone or bullseye. That's because the rifle or its rest was not steady.

Of course the key to stabilizing a rifle might be a tighter sling wrap on your arm, a lower power on your variable scope, a bipod or better shooting rest, control of your breathing or other things.

When using binoculars a good tripod is needed, using your body as one just like a metal tripod for a camera or spotting scope. By using your butt and two feet you form a tripod with your body, anchor both elbows on the meaty part of your legs just below the knees as if you were shooting in the sitting position.

If you can lean your back against a stable object like a rock or tree you become more stable and your field of view is steadier.

While some can stand and view effectively with binoculars, I always sit down or lay down leaning my head on a coat or rock. This is another very stable position. As you get older both your eyes and ability to keep binocu-



This Boone and Crockett Pronghorn antelope was taken with the aid of good optics.

lars steady decay. This means you need to take advantage of proper stability. The larger your magnification in any optical instrument, the more difficult it is to achieve good stability.

Choose an instrument you can effectively stabilize. Do not deceive yourself. 10 by 50s are generally too large for the average user and I feel more comfortable myself with an 8 by 42. The larger ones tire my eyes quicker.

A walking stick can be used in a standing position as the third leg of a tripod formed by it and your two legs. Simply place the binocular on the top of the staff in a firm grip. Binoculars can be placed atop a spotting scope which is already mounted on a tripod.

Wind can ruin stability by moving your body when upright or shaking the spotting scope mounted on a tripod. Set up your observation points out of the wind.

Skill of the Optics User — Just like shooting, a skilled optics user has spent many hours practicing or using the instrument. Do not expect to whip out binoculars and be effective with them immediately.

When using optics to locate man or beast remember that it is far more likely to spot a part of him than the

whole silhouette. I have found many more antlers, hooves, boots or hands than I have a whole deer or man. When glassing densely foliated areas all you may see is a small part of what you are searching for. A fellow once told me that a friend of his had spotted a nice deer by its shadow alone. By learning to spot what looks a bit out of place you soon will be spotting more things that you are searching for with your optics.

Movement always is a dead giveaway. Sometimes even the twitch of an ear or tail can draw your attention. It is important to remember that the optics user must keep movement to a minimum and choose observation posts which will conceal any movement and conceal the human shape.

When viewing an area start with your eyes and look for the giveaway indicators, movement, unnatural shapes or colors, like a white tail on a deer or the straight line of a man-made object. After a good look with the naked eye try binoculars. You may wish to move up to a spotting scope if you still have not found what you want. If you have spotted something, a spotting scope will help you get a much closer look.

Be patient. If you are hunting seri-

ously spend at least 70 percent of your time using optics. You will see much more without being seen than crawling through the brush or walking endless miles. During my sheep hunt my guide and I would spend half a day at a time in one location without any substantial movement.

You must continually ask yourself as you look at each field of view, what is that in the shadow or behind that tree, crevice or boulder? Make sure you know what every single item is in that particular look.

Depending on how well you wish to search, you may wish to recheck what you or someone else has already looked at. Remember that a bedded down deer or man may be hidden behind something when resting. Be patient and thorough.

Fight distraction and drowsiness. Constantly tell yourself mentally that in the next field of view or two will be that big buck you have always dreamed about and one time he will be there!

Techniques of Proper Optics Use

— The following are some simple tricks I have been taught or have learned on my own. When using binoculars use the thumbs and back of the hands to

Keys to Good Optics Use



Systematically cover all terrain when using a spotting scope or other optical instrument.

shade out sidelight at the eyepiece. By doing this you will make the instrument's field of view brighter to the eye and be less distracted.

The same technique will work if you place your regular or camo shirt over your head as if you were an old fashioned photographer covered by his black cape.

This last technique works well with binoculars but really comes into its own when used with a quality spotting scope. The rumpled shirt on your head will also distort your silhouette so that it will be harder to visually identify you. To rest your eye which is not being used when using a spotting scope, try wearing an eye patch like the type a person who is blind in one eye uses. This will cut down sidelight and it helps one concentrate more diligently.

While we're on the subject of resting one's eyes, be sure that you get a good night's sleep when you will be using optics for a long period of time. Haze, reflection, parallax, bright sun and continual concentration will strain your eyes, not to mention causing headaches.

Keeping your eyes open for long periods of time tends to make them dry out. Use an eye wash with soothing characteristics like Visine or Murine. They will let you start each day with fresh, cool eyes.

If you are using variable binoculars or spotting scopes and you begin to develop headaches, try cutting down

on the magnification. Full power is not needed all the time. Save it for pinpointing an object or scoring a game animal.

When carrying binoculars in the field for long periods of time use a wide strap. My pet peeve is to buy a \$400 binocular and find a ¼-inch plastic binocular strap inside. A two-inch strap is far more comfortable. It will not chafe you when placed behind your shirt or coat collar. The GI utility strap is perfect for the job.

Be systematic when scoping a mountain, canyon or any other large amount of terrain with binoculars and especially spotting scopes. I generally start at one end of the terrain feature (like a mountain) and move down till I reach the bottom of the mountain.

Imagine concentric circles like the olympic games symbol. Each circle represents a field of view or look. As you move down the mountain to its base be sure that each field of view or circle overlaps the next by as much as ⅓ to ½.

When you reach the mountain's bottom, start back up towards the top. Your new row of circles should overlap your last row by ⅓ to ½ again. Each field of view should cover or overlap its immediate neighboring field of view or circle. This method will guarantee that you leave nothing overlooked if you concentrate.

Be sure to look closely at shadows

under bushes and those caused by mountains or ridges. This extra darkness conceals both man and animal well. In the same vein check shadow lines carefully. An animal half in shade and half in light is easily distorted and unrecognizable. Look closely and concentrate. Remember that what you're looking for is always just one field of view away.

Remember too, that antelope, goats and sheep have eight-power vision and an enemy aggressor may have optics as good as you or better.

When setting up an observation post for man or animal pay close attention to camouflaging yourself, binoculars and other equipment. I like to scope from a shadowed area even if it is just that of a boulder or large bush.

If you can surround yourself with deadfall, brush, boulders or whatever, so much the better.

Remember the things that help you spot your prey so that the tables are not turned on you someday. These principles take time to learn and have to become second nature. Try hard and give it time.

I thought I was good with optics until a professional sheep guide taught me a thing or two. I saw him spot an animal by just seeing five inches of horn behind a rock. We had to have been a mile and a half away. With practice you can become that good. I hope to! By the way, good hunting. ●

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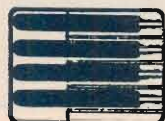
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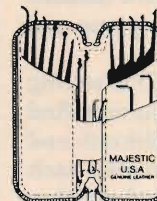
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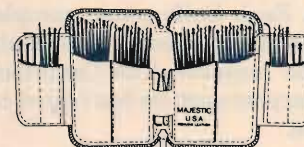
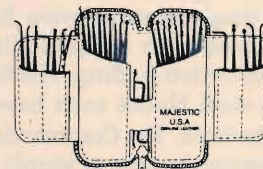


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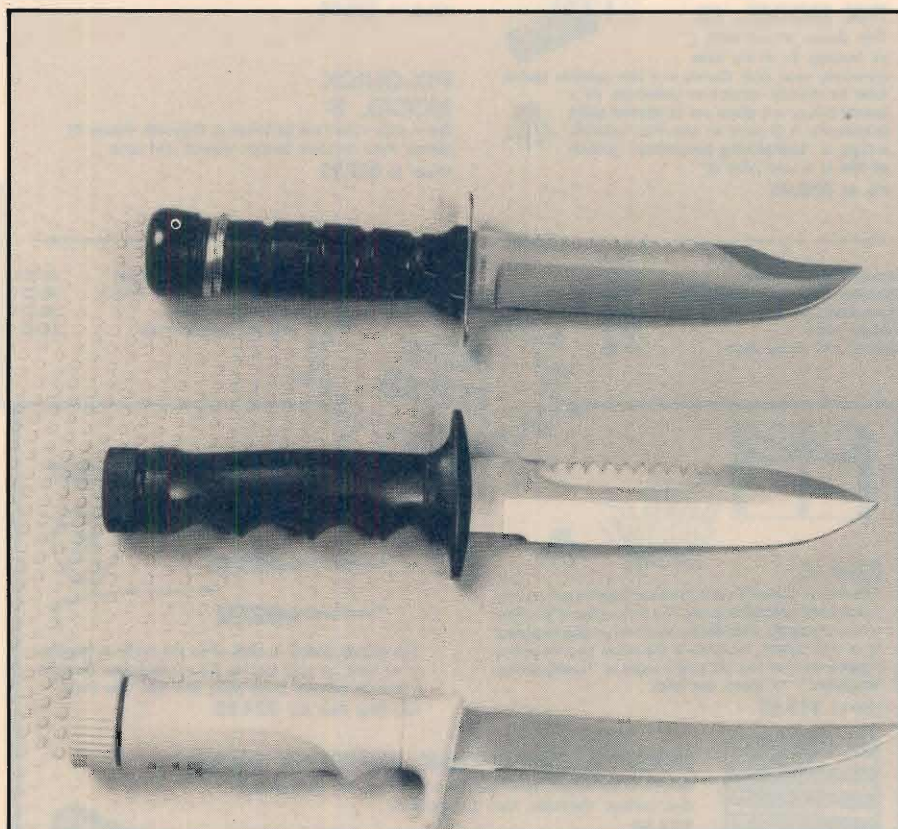
Staff Report

WHEN traveling in the wilderness, a knife is the one tool you should never be without. In fact, one of the backpacker's 10 essential items is a knife.

A small shelter is easily constructed with your knife by cutting branches for a lean-to. Fire can be made by striking a spark with flint and the blunt edge of your knife, and food can be obtained by rigging up snares and small traps. It's amazing how many things a knife will do to help you stay alive.

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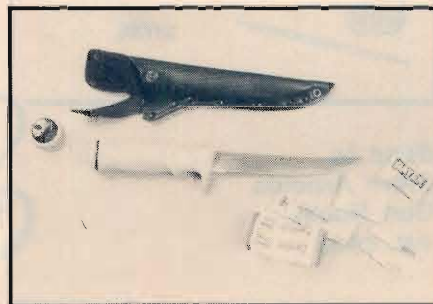
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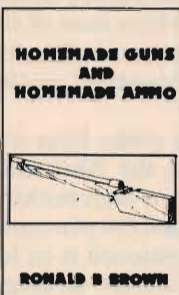
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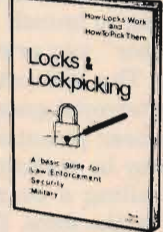


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SPETSNAZ

The ultimate terrorists?...

By Carl H. Yaeger



AS the democratic West is lulled into a false sense of security by Soviet Premier Gorbachov's openness policy, a deadly and sinister organization of super warriors, state terrorists, has been growing and deploying at a feverish pace within the Soviet Union, and beyond its borders.

These special warriors have one primary mission: to spread havoc and terror throughout NATO nations, including the United States in case of general war; and in time of peace — or the climate of low-intensity conflict which passes for peace in many parts of the world — to infiltrate into strategic areas to form vast networks of sleeper agents and have them in place in America, Western Europe, and the Third World to strike when the command is given.

They go by different names. The people of the helpless little nation of Czechoslovakia know them as the "Reydoviki," or the raiders. They seized the Prague Airport and other key facilities in the capital city, thus paving the way for the Soviet invasion of that country in August of 1968.

The Afghans know them as a joint KGB/SPETSNAZ unit which stormed the National Palace in Kabul and gunned down President Hafizullah Amin and his family — a necessary procedure prior to the massive Soviet assault of Afghanistan in 1979.

The Swedes know them as mysterious underwater combat swimmers who have been prowling around Swedish naval bases and strategic harbors. Some of these visitors had infiltrated into the main channel of Stockholm, Sweden's capital city, with mini-submarines equipped with tractor treads. The mini-submers were launched by a Whisky-class fleet submarine well within the international limit, and literally crawled up the underwater walls of the city, within a mile of the Royal Palace. A similar operation took place near Norway's major naval base at Bergen, far up

into Hardanger Fjord.

The anti-terrorist investigators of Britain's Scotland Yard and security services know them as a secret detachment of potential saboteurs and assassins who are located somewhere in the vicinity of the Royal Air Force's Greenham Common base where men of the United States Air Force man the silos containing ground-launched cruise missiles.

This sinister Soviet strike force was virtually unknown to the West until a few years ago when a high-ranking Soviet defector, who used the pen-name "Victor Suvorov," mentioned it in his revealing expose of Soviet strategy, *Inside Soviet Military Intelligence*. Suvorov revealed a terrorist strike force of approximately 30,000 men, and some women, who are controlled by the GRU — Soviet Military Intelligence. These units have the mission of burrowing into an unsuspecting nation during peacetime, and preparing to launch a "clandestine Pearl Harbor" just prior to a Soviet blitzkrieg. The ultimate objective of this military terrorist group is to neutralize the nuclear potential of any prospective enemy by striking at the personnel controlling a country's nuclear weapons strike force. In the United States, this would include a sizable command, control and communications network starting with the president, vice-president, the secretary of state, secretary of defense as well as the joint chiefs of staff and key

congressional leaders. These are the people who could authorize a retaliatory nuclear strike against the Soviet Union.

Next, the target country's military and civilian communications network would be attacked. Our technology is so centralized today that the assault and destruction on just a few computer centers would probably neutralize much of our radio, television, and microwave communications assets. Lack of adequate communications would greatly reduce the ability of our air, naval, and ground forces to meet a Soviet threat.

The official name of the Soviet terrorist army is SPETSALNAYA NAZNACHENIYA, or "Special-Purpose forces." The acronym is SPETSNAZ.

According to U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense Noel Koch: "Their job is to destroy a nation's infrastructure and kill key people. They are an integral part of the Soviet Union's peacetime operations, and in wartime, could pose a grave threat of strategic disruption in the NATO area — and in the United States itself."

Elite Within Elite — The Soviet authorities who command and control SPETSNAZ have authority to select the very best — the pick of the crop — of young Soviet manhood and womanhood for SPETSNAZ units. This includes the very best from units which are already considered elite, such as guards, airborne, and naval infantry (marines). Those athletes who compete for the Soviet Olympic team, are also considered a pool of SPETSNAZ recruits, in fact, according to Victor Suvorov, many of the Soviet Union's best athletes are actually SPETSNAZ commandos. As participants in international sporting events, they have the opportunity to hone their deadly skills in marksmanship, martial arts, boxing, and other lethal sports while becoming acquainted with a variety of cultures and nations in which they may

later be assigned as state terrorists.

The SPETSNAZ recruit is given a strict test of loyalty to the Communist Party and signs an oath swearing him/her to absolute secrecy about their unit and to the existence of SPETSNAZ. If broken, it is punishable by death.

The new recruit is no stranger to rigorous military training, in fact, he or she have been in the armed forces for at least two years. Initial SPETSNAZ training takes place at the Special Faculty of the Ryazan Airborne School and the Reconnaissance Faculty of the Higher Combined Arms School in Kiev. Officers receive training in the clandestine arts from the Military Diplomatic Academy of the Soviet Army in Moscow.

The training of a SPETSNAZ terrorist is brutal — and brutalizing. One of their training bases is at Zheltyye Vody in the Ukraine, and is adjacent to a concentration camp for political prisoners. The camp inmates provide a pool of live “training aids” for martial arts, where the SPETSNAZ commandos can punch, gouge, and maim to their heart’s content. It gives the trainees a taste of the “real thing” and is much more realistic than a bag of sand. Sandbags don’t bleed.

SPETSNAZ soldiers enjoy the good life in comparison to regular army troops of equal rank. Higher pay, better food, quicker promotions, longer leaves and foreign travel, and earlier retirement are the perks which have insured a steady stream of eager volunteers. But they earn them. Typical training exercises may involve survival training where they are dropped into wilderness nowheres and must spend days or even weeks on their own without the essentials — even sleeping bags.

But when assigned to a combat mission, the SPETSNAZ warrior is issued the best of equipment, which includes the Kalashnikov light automatic rifle (AK-74) with 300 rounds of 5.45 caliber ammunition; a bayonet which doubles as a wire cutter and saw; a P6 silenced pistol, six grenades and launcher, and a bizarre knife which can propel its lethal blade a full 30 feet.

Missions — What truly distinguishes SPETSNAZ from other special purposes forces in the world outside of the Communist Bloc, is that to SPETSNAZ, peacetime is also a time of war. As he is infiltrated into the West and those geopolitical areas important to the West, he does more than simply “sleep” as a sleeper agent. One of his missions is to make contact with and maintain

(Continued on page 66)



SPETSNAZ troops on parade.



Sniping and assassination are important SPETSNAZ activities.

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SPETSNAZ

(Continued from page 63)

a tight liaison with those terrorist groups which are domestic to the nation in which he's operating.

These terrorist groups are supplied, trained and even included in SPETSNAZ missions. Evidence of this alarming trend is the re-orientation of Western European terrorist groups as to policy and targeting. Groups such as the Communist Combatant Cells of Belgium, the Red Army Faction of West Germany, Direct Action of France, the Red Brigades of Italy, the Revolutionary Cells of West Germany, and the Spanish Basque-ETA, have all announced major policy reversals in their operational planning.

NATO is now the main target and the rash of assaults within the last several years have verified this ideological and operation shift. Such NATO facilities as petroleum and gas pipelines, oil storage tanks, computer centers and key military and civilian personnel have been targeted by these groups. These are the very targets which SPETSNAZ would attack just before a Soviet blitzkrieg of Europe, but if domestic terrorist groups can whittle down NATO assets through a war of attrition, so much the better.

If a war broke out, SPETSNAZ units would be particularly active just before the conflict began. Key political and military leaders would be assassinated thus paralyzing the decision-making process which is often cumbersome in



Soviet fleet submarines are one means of inserting SPETSNAZ agents into a target area.

the Western democracies.

Nuclear facilities would be assaulted by SPETSNAZ sabotage and demolition units, probably in conjunction with domestic Marxist terrorist groups. Air defense systems, naval bases, and airfields would be attacked as well as the civilian infrastructure: water works, sewage systems, power grids, pipelines, transformers, key transportation facilities — the vital nerve centers of any nation.

SPETSNAZ forces are the only units in the entire Soviet military system which are encouraged to operate with a high degree of independence and be innovative. The dead hand of communist conformity does not, and cannot, restrict SPETSNAZ soldiers.

Each military district and fleet within the Soviet Union has its own SPETSNAZ brigade and each brigade has approximately 100 teams of between 5 to 12 members each.

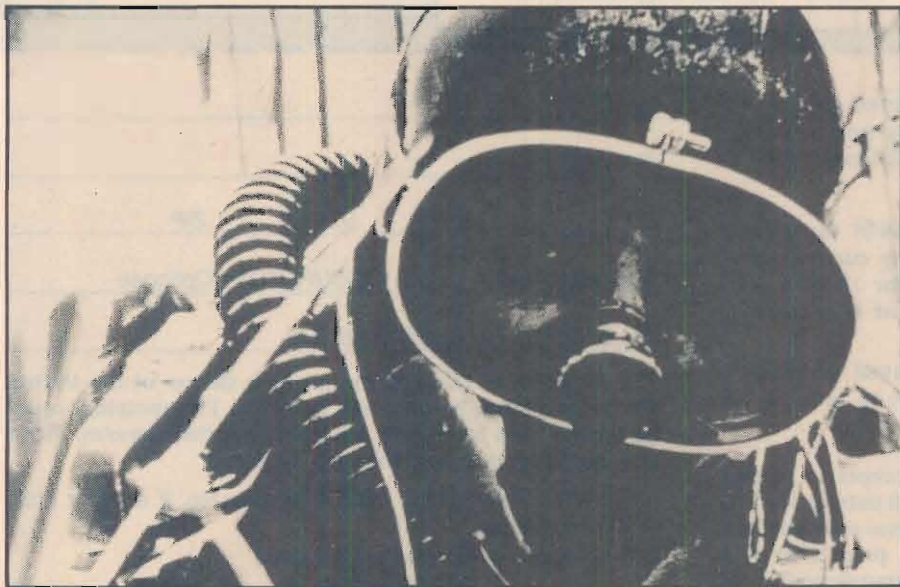
Profile — The SPETSNAZ trooper is, most likely, a highly trained non-commissioned officer or junior field grade officer of lieutenant through captain.

A SPETSNAZ unit is young: 18- to 20-year-old NCOs led by an officer only slightly older. A warrant officer or senior sergeant would be the second in command.

Again, political reliability is a must for all SPETSNAZ soldiers because it is impossible to monitor units with missions of this type, in fact, SPETSNAZ units are the only units in the Soviet military organization which do not have a political officer with them. "Every SPETSNAZ soldier is his own commissar," it is said by Suvorov.

Because the soldiers are young, the training is as strenuous as any in the world and includes underwater combat swimming, high altitude-low opening parachute jumps (HALO) and high altitude-high opening jumps (HAHO) as well as infiltration and exfiltration of target areas, sabotage, clandestine communications, skiing, and martial arts. The most important part of his training is the total immersion of the SPETSNAZ soldier in the language, culture, and folkways of the target nation of assignment.

Their training is capped by a live exercise — a realistic training tour of duty fighting one of the world's most



Cuban Tropas Especiales underwater combat swimmers have been reported around the entrance to the Panama Canal and American naval vessels at Guantanamo Bay in Cuba.

dedicated and ruthless guerrilla movements: the Mujahideen of Afghanistan.

So far it seems, only the United States and Great Britain have taken the SPETSNAZ threat seriously enough to include anti-SPETSNAZ training in their overall war plans. A British operation dubbed *Brave Defender* demonstrated that an alert defense, good intelligence, and rapid reaction can minimize the SPETSNAZ danger.

It was determined from this exercise that there are definitely intelligence indicators to look for to determine if SPETSNAZ infiltration has, or is occurring and the threat level of this build-up.

Things to look for would be: Is there an unusual increase in embassy and consular personnel from the Soviet Union? Are unusually athletic-looking and fit men and women replacing balding and paunchy diplomats? Is there an unusual increase in the number of trade delegations, athletic and cultural exchanges coming from Russia? Is there a resurgence of tourism? Have the number of Soviet "fishing" boats increased off our shores and are they lingering for an unusually long period of time around sensitive areas? Have "strangers" been buying or renting real estate, homes and apartments, near or adjacent to strategic areas such as the Strategic Air Command headquarters outside of Omaha, Nebraska? Have outside and unknown agitators been seen infiltrating peace groups and anti-nuclear protest movements? Soviet defectors have disclosed that a contingent of female SPETSNAZ agents have infiltrated women's protest groups at Greenham Common near the United States Air Force's Tomahawk Cruise Missile sites and were observed organizing and agitating.

Little Brothers — Not only do Western military planners have to worry about Soviet SPETSNAZ forces, but the GRU has created and trained "little brother" organizations duplicating SPETSNAZ missions and organization in the Warsaw Pact nations and other allies as well. Poland, Bulgaria, East Germany, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, and Romania all have their own versions of SPETSNAZ as does Vietnam and North Korea. They too, have their assignments of terrorism and sabotage.

The Soviets use them because they can often infiltrate and blend in with the large ethnic populations of the West. A Polish SPETSNAZ agent would feel quite at home in some of America's

Polish enclaves.

The most worrisome to America's defense planners — especially those concerned with SOUTHCOM, the Southern Command which encompasses that vast area south of our borders which is America's soft underbelly — are the activities of Cuba's version of SPETSNAZ, The Tropas Especiales, or "Special Troops."

The Tropas operate under the direct command of the Cuban government's DGI, the General Intelligence Directorate which is controlled, operationally, by the Soviet KGB. The Tropas have had extensive and impressive combat experience in the conflicts all over Africa where Cuban troops are used as mercenaries by the Russians. They have also served, it has been rumored, as "apprentice unconventional soldiers" to Soviet SPETSNAZ units in Afghanistan. They too, have the mission of training and equipping terrorist groups from all over the Western Hemisphere, including the United States. They have the mission of destabilizing the entire region; of forging links with guerrilla and terrorist groups in such places as El Salvador, Honduras, Chile, and especially Mexico. They have also been involved as liaison agents with the cocaine traffickers in Colombia, Peru, and Bolivia and have fostered drug-terrorist networks in Latin America.

Mexico is the Big Enchilada, the "prize" of the Tropas Especiales. They are also working under the auspices of *The Americas Department*, an agency under the control of the Cuban Communist Party which is involved in destabilizing Latin American and the

U.S. governments.

One frightening scenario as envisioned in the Monimbo Plan, a joint Cuban-Sandinista plot revealed to American intelligence agents by Cuban and Sandinista defectors, is a Tropas Especiales inspired coup d'etat in Mexico, with the help of native Mexican terrorist and left-wing forces. Panic would ensue, and there would be the horrifying specter of some 20 million Mexican refugees pushing across the U.S. border. This refugee horde would be filled with Cuban and Nicaraguan agents and subversives of every stripe.

The FBI has confirmed that Cuban DGI-trained agents have already been infiltrated into the U.S. during the Mariel boat lift of 1979. The question is, would the U.S. fortify its borders in such a situation or would it allow itself to be engulfed by a mass of Mexican refugees? Could the American military bring itself to shoot down thousands of helpless people as they try to stampede across the U.S. border?

Although until recently there has been little public discussion of the matter, a growing number of authorities on terrorism are convinced that SPETSNAZ forces have been operating inside the U.S. for some years and present a grave threat to this nation's security.

The U.S. government security agencies have disclosed very little of what they know about operations of SPETSNAZ here and what is being done about it.

In this era of budget cuts, our government should not turn its back on the need for the resources to investigate and deal with the SPETSNAZ threat. ●



SPETSNAZ warriors practice capturing an enemy soldier.

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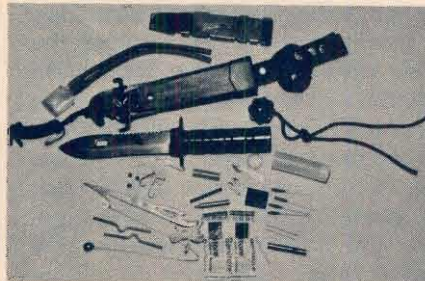
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Some of its features include: 275mm length blade, 140mm length stainless steel with saw teeth. Anodized handle hollowed for the survival kit, black cap with compass inside contains a capsule printed with morse code, waterproof phosphorus matches with a striker and adhesive dressings. In the second are band-aids, small scalpel, lighter flint, pencil, needle and line, safety pins, fishing accessories with fish hooks, fishing line and sinkers.

The rigid sheath made with a belt hanger has the following: Pliable fork for sling shot, clipper wire-cutter and screw driver on the leg, sharpening stone. Inside the sheath, one stainless steel small box with a signal mirror, latex tubes for the slingshot and fishing harpoon with suction band, can-opener, screw driver, caplifter, shackle wrench, whistle, wire saw and two bars for the saw to fit on the outside of the handle. Net weight of the knife, 250 grams Total weight of the set 475 grams



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Tomahawk

(Continued from page 9)



Fine mesh mosquito netting is another important feature not found on the original Indian version.

homeless, hunters, survivalists, outdoors enthusiasts and military applications. With a 15-foot height and a 17-foot diameter at the base, the lodge can accommodate eight to 10 adults.

A water jacket around the base of the support pole stores three gallons of water which can be heated by the same pile of firewood that is used to cook on the stove and heat the lodge. The collapsible stove/oven attaches to the support pole/chimney next to the water jacket.

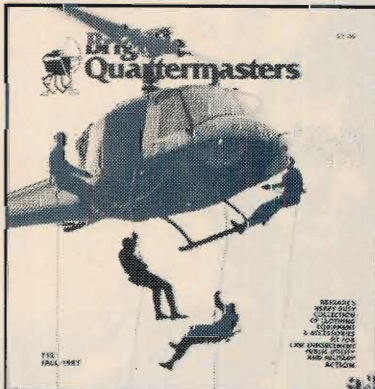
The heavy duty Cordura nylon material used in the Tomahawk Lodge is fire retardant, abrasion, mold and mildew resistant. Zippers on the mosquito netting, entrance and rear window/emergency exit are large and strong. A double coating of urethane keeps the tepee waterproof.

The lodge has a partial interior floor with a cutout for the stove, hangers for drying wet clothes and gear, a screened entryway to keep insects out, and as many 22- by 18-inch windows as the owner desires. For extra space, an optional front canopy can be attached to the tent entrance to provide extra protection from bad weather or shade from the sun.

Suggested retail price for the Tomahawk Lodge and stove is \$1,495. Licensed outfitters and guides qualify for a price discount. For more information, contact Pyromid Outdoor Cooking Systems, Dept. ASG, 3292 South Highway 97, Redmond, OR 97756; (800) 634-4288. ●

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Radiation Article Error

Mr. Duncan Long incorrectly stated, in his article "Radiation Detection Equipment" (March 1988) that "Of the isotopes which could be encountered in an accident, cesium-137 and strontium-90 are the most dangerous since they give off *only* beta radiation." I agree that both cesium and strontium are beta emitters, however, cesium-137 emits gamma radiation at .663 MEV. This makes it readily detectable by most radiation detection equipment and it is used as check source to calibrate equipment since it has a 33-year half life and emits its gamma at only one energy level. Additionally, Mr. Long states that many low-level radiation meters can "lock up" if exposed to levels of radiation which might be encountered in a nuclear war. The correct term is "saturate," and results in the instrument ceasing to function correctly. But this would probably occur only with older instruments since most modern-day instruments are designed to prevent this.

Bruce V. Shrader
Harrison, Tennessee

Duncan Long responds: *I plead guilty to the mistake about cesium-137. The word "saturate" should have been mentioned. However, in the limited space allowed in the article, I think the term "lock up" gives a bit better idea to the reader about how the instrument will behave. "Saturate" means something to an engineer making the equipment, but very little to the user who's mostly worried about the behavior of the dial or digital read out of the meter.*

Terrorism

The general populace in the United States is detached from the threat of terrorism and I think it is a good idea to inform people about it. As we enter the 1990s we will be more exposed to terrorism and the more we know about it the better we will be able to deal with it. I am glad to see that your publication is concerned enough to write about terrorism and I hope you will continue to do so.

Erik C. Diekman
Virgil, Illinois

We consider terrorism to be a major threat to the survival of the world's democracies and to many of the citizens of those democratic countries. We have for some time been regularly carrying articles on terrorism, including domestic and foreign terrorist groups and organizations and activities, and we will continue to run these articles and provide information about what is being done to combat terrorism and what the individual can do to protect him/herself.

Israeli Gas Mask

I have recently purchased an Israeli gas mask in an effort to obtain a reasonably priced NBC mask for my group. However, the source from which I obtained the mask was unable to provide me with information about how long the filters last, what chemicals and gases it protects against, proper storage, etc. I would also like to know how to don and clear the mask. Any information you could give me would be greatly appreciated.

Brian T. Rutledge
Fayetteville, Tennessee

These masks are said to be effective for all known NBC substances. The filters should last for many years if kept with the seals intact and stored in a cool, dry place. Avoid vibration, as this will turn the filter elements into dust. The mask should be stored with the filters and should be checked periodically for cracks in the rubber. It should be discarded if cracks appear. The proper way to put on a mask is: 1) open the mask with its outside pointing away from you with each of your thumbs under each of the lower head straps; 2) place your chin in the chin area of the inside of the mask; 3) pull the mask up over your face while your thumbs pull the straps up and over your head. Clear the mask of bad air by covering the air outlet with your hand and exhaling. Exhale only lightly in cold weather to avoid fogging the lenses. For more detailed instructions, see the articles, "Gas Masks" in the November 1985 issue of ASG and "Gas Masks" in the July 1987 issue of ASG. ●

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Camouflage

(Continued from page 7)

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The coated firearm and or accessories are covered by a 30-day unconditional warranty and a one-year limited warranty. The company estimates the coating will last three to five times longer than conventional blueing.

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At the 1988 SHOT show in Las Vegas, Nevada, Colt Industries had several of their firearms on display that had been coated by Z-Coat. If Colt Industries has checked this coating system out, it might be a good idea for individual firearm owners to do so also.

Anyone desiring more information on this coating system, prices and shipping via UPS, should call or write to: Z-Coat Ordnance, Inc., Dept. ASG, Gene Heller, 3915 U.S. Highway 98 South, Lakeland, FL 33813; (813) 665-1734. ●

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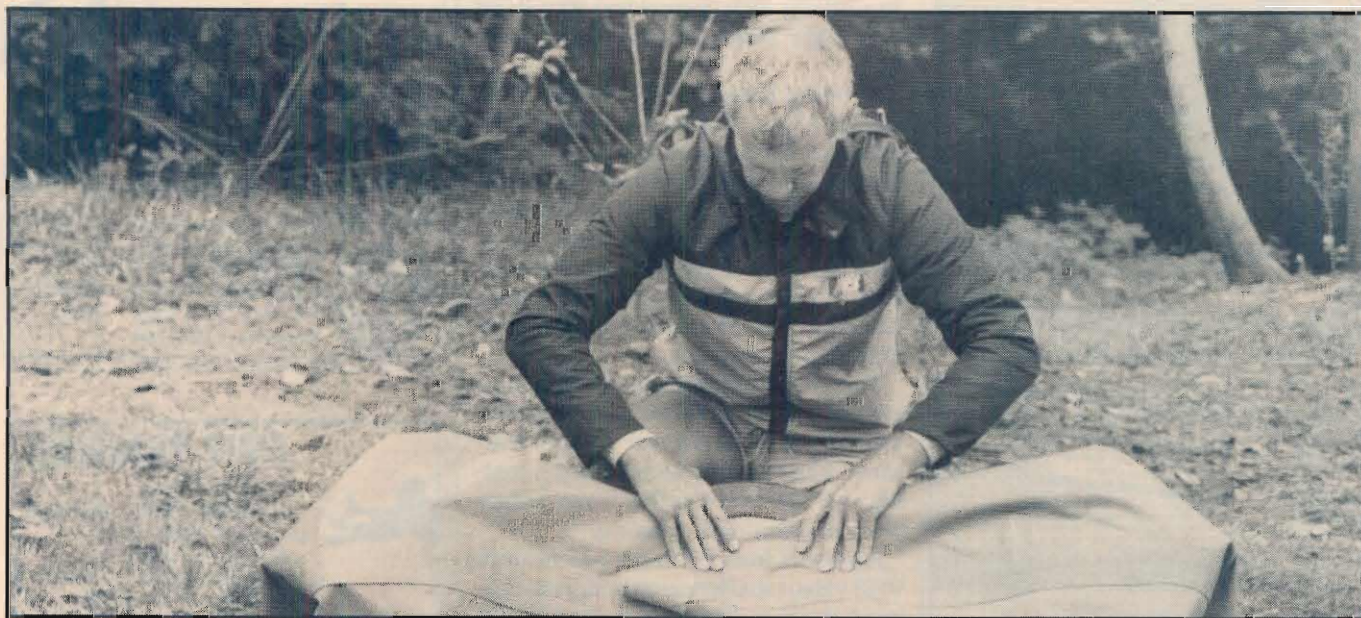
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Your Passport To Safety

If your escape route crosses a river, canal, bay, or lake...

by Roy Ruel



An inflatable boat being unfolded.

AN essential piece of any specific plan, if that plan is to be assured of success, is a viable alternative plan.

For those located near our nation's plentiful and available waterways, be they rivers, canals, lakes, inland bays, or the oceans, an alternative to be considered is evacuation over water.

Is your home base bounded and perhaps even cut-off by water? Today's reinforced concrete bridges with their solid precast guard rails give every appearance of being just sections of the highway, and some are unaware of the many natural and man-made waterways surrounding and potentially entrapping them. And where older and perhaps narrow bridges are quite evident, are they clogged and inadequate for even normal rush-hour traffic let alone for when everyone in the city

and surrounding area will be attempting to cross them — or cross those that were left — in the aftermath of a major disaster?

In time of extreme difficulty if your only way out is across a river, canal, bay or lake by bridge there just may be no way out. For the resourceful and prepared, however, this potential trap could well be its own solution as an alternative, or primary, evacuation route.

But how to take full advantage of our abundant waterways for perhaps crucial transport and vital food for survival? Storage of a boat suitable for several people and their gear is always a problem, and in troubled times just getting a boat to the water may be an even greater problem. And once there how about launching when no "drive

down" concrete launching ramp is available for that 1,000 pound boat and motor on its trailer?

There's also the question of seaworthiness. Your greatest need ever for your boat may just be when the winds are high and small craft warnings are up. The answer: the super safe inflatable boat.

What's an inflatable? You have no doubt seen inflatables on *The Undersea World of Jacques Cousteau*. The French developed and manufacture several inflatable boats; i.e., Zodiac, Avon, etc. Inflatables are those small, and not so small, boats that appear as two lead grey torpedoes with their noses connected together at the bow, and their tails separated by a transom with a healthy sized outboard at the stern. Those torpedoes are a heavy fabric



LEFT — A 12-foot inflatable rests beside a 14-footer on a light trailer.



A quality inflatable boat is virtually unsinkable.

inflated with air, as is the inflatable's keel.

Why an inflatable?

Storage for one thing. A 12- to 15-foot inflatable boat suitable to safely carry four to six adults over the roughest water will easily store in a closet or a corner of your garage, gas tank, motor, oars and all.

Safety for another. A quality inflatable boat is virtually unsinkable. Period. You may need your foul weather gear, and you may get wet, but you won't go down.

Ease of transport is another reason. With a little fitting, the same inflatable boat will stow in the trunk of your car, a car top carrier, or easily in the back of a van or pickup. It won't break your back in doing it either. A 12- to 15-foot inflatable packed for

transport or storage can be handled quite easily by one person. Not altogether in one piece (motor removed of course), but the separate components can. In fact, given the need, your inflatable could be packed to water where no roads are available — and maybe not desired.

Launching the inflatable, while no doubt easiest from a ramp, can be accomplished where access is only a footpath to a grassy bank or sandy shore. The inflatable boat can be launched and used where only scant inches of shallow water are available.

While designed primarily to be powered by a marine outboard motor, in need, the inflatable can easily be rowed. When the super tankers are dead in the water, the gasoline is all burned, and the high powered inboard's

wake no longer disturbs the water, oars will get you quietly across.

And your inflatable boat sits low in the water; its presence is not obtrusive and not announced by a big gleaming white fiberglass or shiny aluminum, hull and a ruckus exhaust. Certainly a consideration in any survival situation.

Safety, Seaworthiness — Convinced maybe, but perhaps like some you're bothered by visions of brightly colored and easily punctured small plastic boats bobbing in home swimming pools or nearby lakes?

The truth of the matter is that the inflatable boat we are talking of is safer and less likely to go down than boats several times its size. Inflatables are bought for their seaworthiness and

Your Passport To Safety



What better source of food than our nation's rivers, lakes and oceans?

safety, not the opposite. The next time you watch an Antarctic exploration film notice the lifeboats ready on the exploration vessels — inflatables.

Types — While good inflatable boats are available from six-foot-long dinghies to 25-foot commercial models with 175-horsepower outboards ferrying 20 men out to a construction job, the sizes most likely to be used for a survival boat will be in the 12- to 15-foot range, holding four to six people.

The basic boat will have the three separate air compartments: two side tubes and an inflatable keel and floor boards. The fixed transom will be capable of taking standard marine outboard motors from 5 to 50 horsepower.

In addition to size, inflatables differ as to features such as hardware, val-

ing, rubbing strakes, fabric reinforcement, wood or aluminum floor boards, storage space.

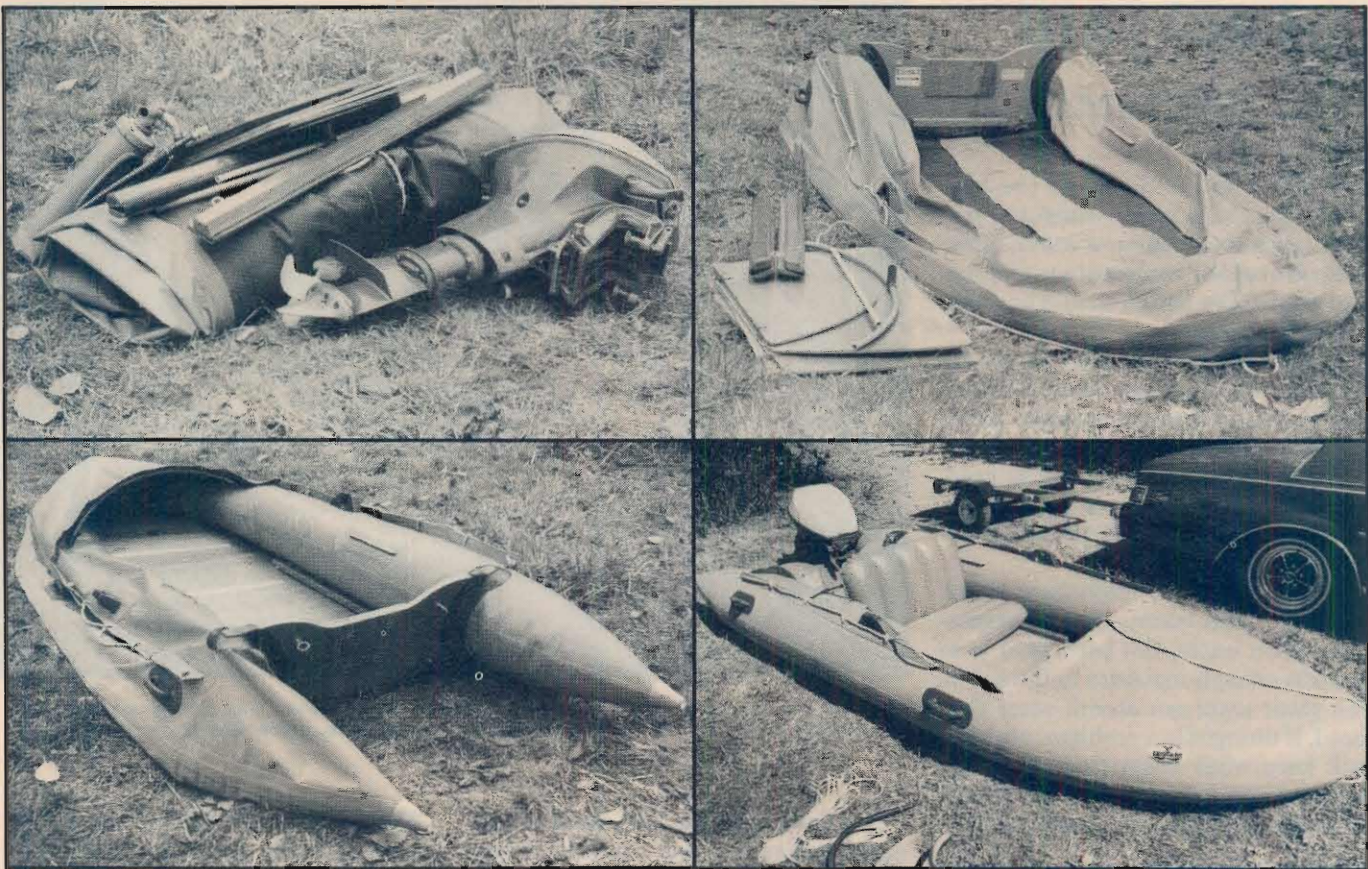
Excluding the motor and gas tank, the boat will break down into two packages for transport. One package containing the folded up boat itself will measure about 48 inches by 20 to 24 inches by about 10 inches thick. The other, containing the floor boards, will be about the same overall size except only four to eight inches thick. Together they will weigh from 100 to 200 pounds depending on boat size, features and manufacturer.

Assembly of your inflatable is very quick and simple with no tools other than the air pump required. The boat itself is first unfolded and laid out. The floor boards which have mating interlocking front and back edges are

placed inside and the side bars that maintain them ridged are fitted over their outside edges. Each of the air chambers is then inflated. It's as simple as that and can be accomplished in five to 10 minutes once you know your particular boat.

While you certainly will want a hand or foot pump to inflate the boat anywhere anytime, electric pumps to be operated from a car battery are available. But the hand pumps available are large, the pressures not high, the effect to inflate not great, and the electric can be easily done without.

A more desirable if not really necessary aid to proper inflation is a pressure gauge. Inflation pressures vary between manufacturers but generally are between one to three psi. Without a gauge the tendency is to underin-



Assembly of the inflatable is generally quick and easy with only an air pump required.

flate, making the boat less rigid and durable than it should be.

Like most anything, selection of a particular inflatable will be dictated by your needs and wants, tempered by the thickness of your pocketbook.

In your deliberations, several factors affecting your inflatable's size and weight need be considered.

First what will be your boat's prime purpose? Sole-transport for all to some remote location, or for more limited transport and food gathering once there?

If your survival boat is to be used as your main transport and is required to pack your gear as well as the occupants' gear, something bigger than for food gathering will no doubt be required. How many, and how far, and with what gear? The manufacturer's statements as to person capacity need to be considered when the boat is your sole survival transport.

For limited transport and food gathering how far is it and how many of you are available to pack your boat to the food source waters? While storage space required is not too much different for boats of the 12- to 15-foot range, weight is. Thus, if there are only two of you to do the packing and any distance gets involved, while a 14-foot boat may be

nice on the water, a 12-foot would be a lot easier on the back.

What it boils down to is this: unless the number of people on board dictates the largest of boats, you must consider other factors. Lots of gear, large bodies of water, prime transport vehicle, no practical storage limitation, and money all would favor a large heavy duty boat.

Conversely a small crew, long carry distance, smaller bodies of water, mainly for food gathering, and a budget might suggest a light duty compact 12-foot model.

Motors — Motor selection is probably as, if not more, difficult than boat selection. And again several considerations (not just money) are involved, making simple answers difficult.

For just normal cruising, getting where you're going, a motor of 5 to 10 hp will do depending on actual boat size. Inflatable boats plane nicely, skimming on top of the water just like a racing hydroplane. They can cover a lot of territory quickly with little fuel when up and planing.

So at a minimum you want enough poop to get your boat up and on the plane. And the larger the boat, and the more passengers and gear, the more power required. You can throttle back

once you are up and going, but you want the power to get you there.

Further, if your survival inflatable is to double as a recreation boat (and why not), and water skiing is one of your recreations (yes you can water ski behind an inflatable), you will need more power — lots of it and the more the better. Consider the manufacturer's recommendation as to what the boat's transom will handle, but 25 to 50 horsepower will be required.

A hand or foot air pump, an air gauge, oars, an anchor and life preservers for the entire crew should be taken along with the boat on all outings. Accessories range from collapsible plastic gas tanks to minimize lost space, to inflatable seats or pads to make the riding softer.

Probably one of the most useful additions would be a set of launching wheels. Launching wheels are a pair of "wheelbarrow" size tires bolted to the inflatable's transom, each side of the motor, that permit the boat to be rolled into the water stern first by carrying only the light bow. In the water they are then removed and stored away. Handy for any size boat, they are particularly useful on a 14- or 15-footer, and permit one-man launching without benefit of a ramp or trailer. ●

Backyard

(Continued from page 23)

face of the soil and around the base of the plants to retain moisture, prevent quick evaporation of water, maintain an even soil temperature and control weeds. The mulch should be about six inches deep.

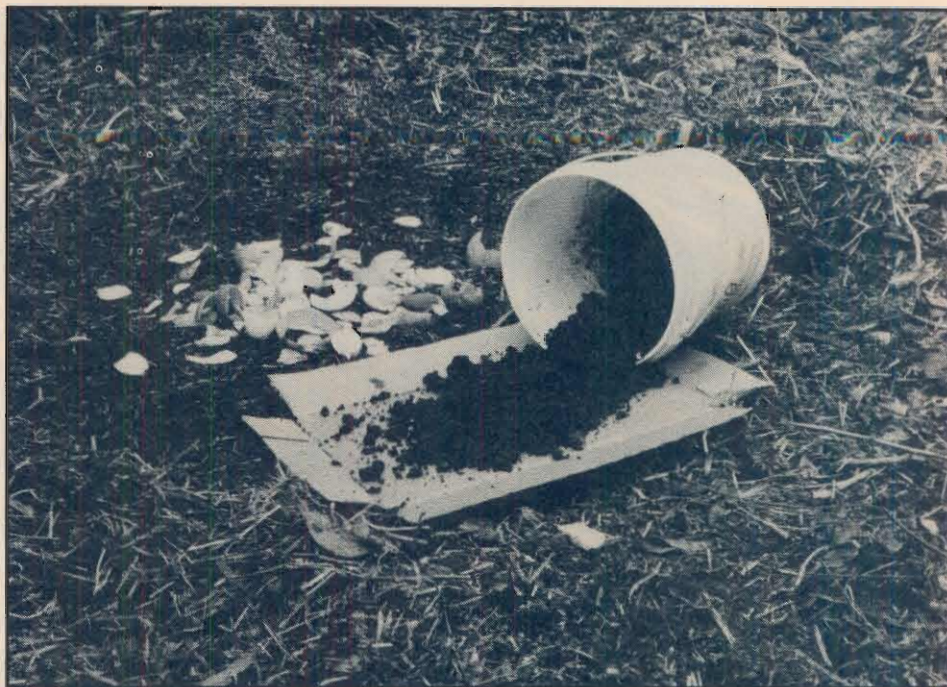
Some of the best mulches to use are leaves, lawn clippings, fresh sawdust, fine wood shavings, pine needles, straw, ground corn cobs and shredded tobacco.

Replace the mulch as often as needed. When a weed comes up through the mulch, simply pull the weed out by hand.

Water is the key ingredient when you want good tasting, tender vegetables. With water, the basic goal is to provide enough moisture to the soil so the plant roots can absorb what they need. If drought is a problem, mulches will keep what water there is in the soil, slowing down evaporation. Check your garden daily for water need.



Even though it may still be quite cold outside, it's not too early to begin working on the next season's crops. Use a spade to turn the soil when the ground is dry enough to crumble when worked and drive the spade down its full length into the soil before turning it over.



This bucket of dark topsoil will be mixed with the layer of compost under it for growing vegetables in this backyard garden plot. The compost consists of vegetable waste, leaves, lawn clippings and manure.

Dig down into the soil about six to eight inches and feel the soil. If the soil is warm and dry, water the ground. But if the soil is cool and moist, your plants are okay for the next day or two. A good hose with a spray nozzle and a watering can are the watering items you'll need for a small garden.

As the plants grow, you must learn to follow the weather. When a late frost is expected, use plastic bags that are large enough to cover the plants. Secure the plastic bag at the base of the plant.

Develop the *habit of observing* your garden *daily*. This will help you in protecting your garden. And in no time at all, you'll soon learn what kind of pests there are in your area.

A high, closely woven fence is sufficient to keep out most animals. A fence can serve as a trellis. For the rodents that burrow underground, you can use traps, poison bait, or place repellents in their runs.

To prevent insect damage in the garden, use insecticides, and *read the instructions*. Only certain kinds of insects are killed by certain kinds of chemicals. But before you decide what you're going to do about these bugs, try to identify the insect. Some insects are helpful in the garden and to kill these insects would be a big harm to your garden.

The lady beetle, the lacewing, the ambush bug, the praying mantis and some spiders are good predators.

With more than half of the 1,400 species of North American birds having a diet consisting of insects, you'll soon learn that birds are just as valuable as those "good" insects.

Generally, birds will feed on insects when they are plentiful in summer and resort to other foodstuffs if they find the supply of bugs running short. To attract birds to your garden, keep a bird feeder filled with bird feed.

Disease Resistance — It is very helpful if you are able to plant plants that are resistant to diseases, but that is not always possible.

For plant diseases, look for such things as rotting, wilting, scabs, spots and blotches and discoloration. When a plant becomes diseased, simply pull the plant, roots and all, from the soil and dispose of properly.

If you're going to use an aerosol spray, don't spray too close. Keep the can at least a foot away from the plant or the chill of the aerosol propellant may damage the plant.

Whatever it is you do about these plants, be *concerned* about it and seek help from others if you don't know exactly what to do.

When the vegetables start growing and you start picking the vegetables to eat, wash the picked vegetables with clean, cold water.

This practice of "good hygiene" is a must if you are to protect the health of your family — especially if you have

used insecticides.

In a small garden a path between the plants isn't necessary, not as long as the plants are properly spaced. But as you make your garden bigger, you might want to include a path. A path will allow you to have access anywhere in your garden with ease.

Tools — As you work in your garden more and more, you'll find the tools that you'll need to get the job you want done. When looking for hand tools, get the best tools available. These kinds of tools will last you a long time. Pick the tools that are right for your size, they'll be more pleasant to work with.

Clean and dry the tools after using them, sharpen the edge of the spade or hoe, wipe the metal parts with an oily rag and place them in a storage area.

The tools you should start with are the spade, hoe, rake, pitchfork, a sharp pocketknife, watering can, twine and hand sprayer. When working with the tools, be careful.

The end of the growing season doesn't mean it's time to forget about the garden, but to prepare the garden for next season.

After removing the plant supports from the garden and the string that served as a trellis, there are a number of things you should do.

Mix the remaining crop residue with the soil as well as the compost. Compost is unused vegetable waste, barnyard manure, leaves and grass clippings, and is collected during the growing season.

A large plastic trash bag can be used for the collecting of compost. When filling the bag, add a little water every now and then to keep the material moist. Tie the bag and turn every few weeks to move the moisture back and forth.

Once the soil has been tilled, spread a layer of mulch, about six inches deep, over the soil. The mulch will keep the ground warm during the cold season.

When it's time for the next growing season, just mix the mulch, compost and soil together, and you'll find the ground just right for growing.

Occasionally, check your garden during the winter months, making sure everything is okay.

Since the era of the Victory Gardens during World War II, the backyard garden has been on the rise. And with every garden I work in, I enjoy the results: tasty, healthy vegetables whenever my family, my friends and I want them. ●

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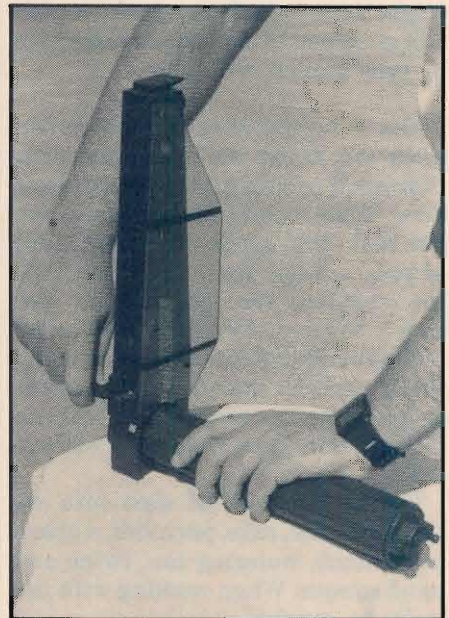
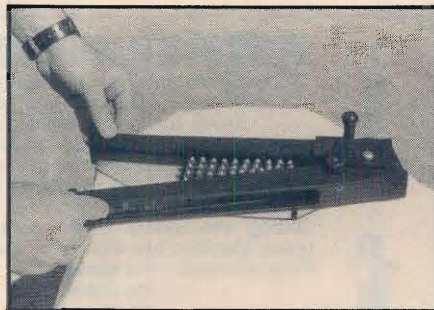
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M-900 Pistol, Carbine

(Continued from page 55)



The M-900 magazine speed loader permits the loading of a magazine in as little as 30 seconds.

rel. The barrels are made of 41-40 heat treated chrome moly steel. The upper receivers are prime cast A356 aluminum T-6 temper. Grips and forends are made of a matte black glass-filled Zytel nylon-type material.

CALICO is also developing a .223 caliber firearm of similar design to the M-100 and M-900 guns which will also

have a large capacity magazine.

Shooting — After looking the M-900 weapons over and photographing them at the CALICO offices and production facility in Bakersfield and discussing them with designers Warren Stockton and Mike Miller, we went with them to 5 Dogs outdoor shooting range outside Bakersfield to shoot the carbine.

The carbine and pistol pictured here were prototypes of the weapons expected to be mass produced for sale to the public and government agencies beginning this fall which are to be marketed by American Industries of Cleveland, Ohio.

There were some failures to fire experienced during the shooting of approximately 100 rounds of full metal jacketed PMC 9mm ammunition run through the carbine, but on the whole, it functioned well in both slow aimed firing from the shoulder and rapid fire from the hip. Recoil was very light and almost unnoticeable.

The M-900 pistol and carbine, in our opinion, will be effective and versatile short-range weapons for personal defense or the other uses they were designed for. The retail prices for them have not been established but are expected to be under \$500 for each gun. For more information contact American Industries, Dept. ASG, 8700 Brook Park Road, Cleveland, OH 44129-6899; (216) 398-1572. ●

M-900 Pistol and Carbine: Tech Specs

Caliber	9mm NATO	
Magazine capacities	50-, 100-rds	
Action/operation	retarded blowback/ semiauto (full-auto planned)	
Rate of fire	approx. 1,200-rpm full auto	
Muzzle velocity	approx. 1,290 ft./sec. w/6-inch barrel, 1,400 w/16-inch barrel	
Weights:	Pistol	Carbine
Empty	2.25 lbs.	3.7 lbs.
Loaded 50-rd. mag	4 lbs.	5.5 lbs.
Loaded 100-rd. mag	5.8 lbs.	7.2 lbs.
Lengths:		
With 50-rd. mag	14 in.	28 1/2 in.
With 100-rd. mag	19 in.	28 1/2 in.
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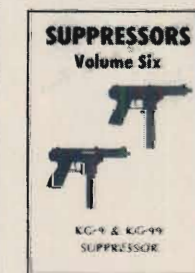
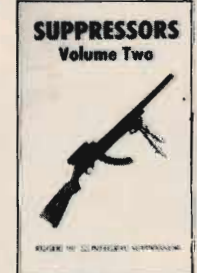
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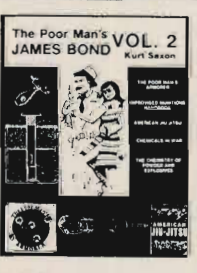


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